

THE
TWELFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE *1341*
AMERICAN SOCIETY

FOR
Colonizing the Free People of Colour
OF THE
UNITED STATES.

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WITH AN APPENDIX.

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WASHINGTON:

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1829.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,
AT THEIR
TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Twelfth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour on the Coast of Africa, was held on Saturday evening the 17th Jan. at the City Hall in Washington. Though the weather was quite unpleasant, the assembly was numerous and respectable, and was honoured with the presence of many of the most distinguished men of our country, among whom were Chief Justice MARSHALL, the Secretary of State, and many Members from both Houses of Congress.

At seven o'clock, the President of the Society, Judge WASHINGTON, took the Chair, and the names of the following Delegates from Auxiliary Societies were read by the Secretary:

From the State Society of Virginia.

Chief Justice MARSHALL,
The Hon. JOHN TYLER,
The Hon. C. F. MERCER.

From the State Society of Vermont.

The Hon. H. SEYMOUR,
The Hon. BENJAMIN SWIFT.

From the State Society of New Hampshire.

The Hon. SAMUEL BELL.

From the Society of Lexington, Ky.

The Hon. Judge CLARKE.

From the Society of Ann Arundel County, Md.

ALEXANDER RANDALL, Esq.

THOS. S. ALEXANDER, Esq.

From the Society of Fredericksburg, Va.

The Hon. JOHN L. MARYE.

From the Society of Petersburg, Va.

The Hon. Mr. ARCHER.

From the Society at Preston, Trumbull County, Ohio.

The Hon. Mr. WHITTLESEY, President.

From the Society at Snowhill, Md.

The Hon. Mr. WILSON.

From the Society of Crawford County, Pennsylvania.

The Hon. STEPHEN BARLOW.

From the Society at Pittsburg, Penn.

The Hon. WILLIAM MARKS,

The Hon. JOHN L. KERR.

From the Society of Albemarle County, Va.

The Hon. Mr. RIVES.

From the Society in Alexandria, D. C.

GEORGE JOHNSON, Esq.

WM. GREGORY, Esq.

From the Society in Georgetown, D. C.

JOEL CRUTTENDEN, Esq. President,

R. DUNLOP, Esq.

GIDEON DAVIS, Esq.

From the Society in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Hon. JACOB BURNET.

From the Society in Wilmington, Delaware.

The Hon. KENSEY JOHNS.

The Secretary then read the Report of the Board of Managers on the affairs of the Society for the past year, the progress of the Colony, its condition and prospects.

The Hon. C. F. MERCER offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be presented to the President and Board of Managers, for their able and successful exertions during the year, and for the report laid before this meeting, and that they be requested to print the same.

Mr. MERCER addressed the meeting, and after congratulating the President and Board on the return of the present anniversary under auspices so

cheering, adverted, by way of contrast, to the earlier periods of the society, and especially, to that, when its plan was first submitted, by a resolution, asking the co-operation of the general government, to the patronage of the Legislature of Virginia. He remembered, he said, the various objections which it encountered in that body, and particularly from the speech of a gentleman, now distinguished in the councils of this nation, who, notwithstanding that he voted for the resolution, contended, that Africa was a mere sand barren; that the climate was pestilential; and that the idea of founding there, an asylum for emancipated slaves, was chimerical; that every emigrant who was transported thither, would cost, for his transportation, at least \$200; and that the sum required to plant a colony, would exhaust the resources of the greatest empire in the world. The scheme, at that day, met with but lukewarm friends or open enemies, in almost every direction. What a different spectacle now salutes the view of the patriot and the philanthropist.—The Society had already, a Colony in Africa, which, in the short space of five years from its actual commencement, had attained a strength and extent such as the first settlements of Virginia did not reach in the fourth of a century. Yet it had been planted by the efforts of a private Society, without the direct aid of any Government, and had succeeded in despite of persecution, (if the opposition of hostile sentiments could be so denominated.) It had rested, for its support, mainly on the exertions of individual zeal and benevolence: under the blessing, indeed, of that superintending Providence from which all good councils and all just thoughts proceed. From this point in its history, the friends of the Society might look back with an honest pride, and forward with the highest anticipations of complete success.—Their efforts had already received the sanction of nine of the states of this Union, and the day was fast approaching when its advocates would have no farther opposition to subdue—when but one opinion would prevail, as to the motives and the objects of the enterprise: when the slave-holder and the abolitionist would consider this Society as a middle ground, where they might unite in sentiment and action—when our Southern brethren would become convinced, said Mr. M. that the Society sought nothing more anxiously than the peace and prosperity of the slave-holding states. The time is not, we may trust, very remote, when there will exist not a district, a city or a village in our country, where the success of the American Colony of Liberia will not be hailed with joy. A place was long sought for in vain, to which the free coloured population of the United States might be transported with safety to others, and advantage to themselves: at length, such a spot has been found, where every advantage seemed to be concentrated, which the most enlightened friend of the African race could have desired. Here, that race is in every form a curse, and if the system, so long contended for by the uncompromising abolitionist could prevail, its effect would be to spread discord and devastation from one end of the Union to the other. The evil though begun in the South, would be staid by the North. But if

the interests of the North and of the South, the feelings and views of the East and of the West can be united in a well-matured system of colonization, not only may the threatening prospect of future danger be avoided, but the evils, now felt and complained of, be greatly mitigated, if not wholly removed. Here Mr. M. adverted to the situation of his native state, and the condition of the free black population existing there, whom he described as a horde of miserable people—the objects of universal suspicion; subsisting by plunder; and then took occasion to refer to the condition of the same class of population in the City of Philadelphia. After complimenting that city as the pride and ornament of our country, and referring to her deserved fame, as well for the excellence of her police, as for the benevolence of her early founders, which still continued, he said, to distinguish their descendants; he added, that he had some time ago availed himself of an opportunity of devoting two days in that city to the investigation of the condition of its coloured population. One of them was a Sabbath—the other, a day of labour—and he had seen on both, scenes of squalid and hopeless misery—such as he had never witnessed in any part of the globe—neither among the wretched paupers of England, nor the wooden-shod peasantry of France. He had conversed with a very intelligent physician there, who had supplied him with facts, which, if it were proper to detail on the present occasion, would add a deep and mournful colouring to this picture. Experience had there confirmed the deductions of reason, that if we would render freedom, to the slave, a blessing; if we would confer real benefits, on the children of Africa, Colonization must go, hand in hand, with Emancipation. In endeavouring to accomplish this object, the Society would find ample employment. The pernicious influence which had been charged upon its designs, was not only foreign to them, but deprecated, by no part of the American people, more sincerely, than by the friends of the colonization of Africa by her free coloured descendants of the United States. He was happy to believe, said Mr. M., that the fears of his Southern friends were, every day, becoming more and more quieted, while a conviction was hourly strengthening at the North, that their Southern countrymen were actuated by the same spirit of benevolence with themselves. All that was needed, for a just estimate of the views of both, was to enable them to understand each other. The result would be to unite their efforts by common council. Could both parts of the Union be represented in one common assembly here, it would soon be found that the delegates from every quarter of America had brought with them the same feelings. Justice would be done, at once, to the policy of the South, and to the humanity of the North.

In conclusion, Mr. M. renewed his congratulations to the President, on the prosperous advances of the African colony, which might be ascribed in part to his early and steady patronage, and the moral influence of a name deservedly dear to both continents. In offering a resolution of thanks to the

Board of Managers which he knew to be merited by their persevering zeal and ability, he desired to be regarded not as an officer of the Parent Institution, from whose councils other duties had withdrawn him, during the past year, but as a delegate of the Colonization Society of his native commonwealth, which he had the honour, on the present occasion, to represent, in common with his much revered friend, on his left, (Chief Justice Marshall,) and an absent friend, recently the Governor of that Commonwealth, (Mr. Tyler of the Senate,) whose attendance was withheld from the present meeting by ill health, and the inclemency of the season.

F. S. KEY, Esq. then rose and said,

That he felt grateful, as a member of the Board of Managers, for the approbation expressed in the resolution just passed.—He begged leave to present to the meeting, by the resolution he was about to offer, a far more worthy subject of thanks than the Board of Managers. It becomes this Society, while it expresses its regret for the loss of one to whom it is more indebted than to all the labours of all its friends, to express also its thankfulness, that he was ever given to us. The lamented Ashmun was a man raised up by Providence, fitted for, and called to the post which he had so honourably filled, and to which he gave himself as a martyr.

He did not fear to be thought an enthusiast, in saying, that clearer indications were never given that the Almighty interposes in the schemes of his creatures, than by the incidents which removed Mr. Ashmun from his humble labours here, to a continent where his name will be remembered forever. It ought to be known, that it was not the wisdom of the Board of Managers that selected for the deliverance and government of their infant Colony in Africa, the man who so faithfully and eminently performed this service. With a meek and quiet spirit he had moved among us, in his sphere of humble duties, as if unconscious himself of the energies he was afterwards to develope.

While fitting out a vessel about to sail from Baltimore, with settlers for the Colony, some apparent accident suggested the necessity of his accompanying them to Liberia, and without any appointment from the Board, or any farther design than that of seeing them restored to the land of their forefathers, and returning in the vessel, he embarked with them. His return, the state of the Colony upon his arrival, rendered impossible. It was on the brink of destruction. The former Agent had been compelled, by ill health, to leave it. The people were cut off from all communication with the natives, who were then collecting forces to assail them, without a leader, and dispirited at the prospect of the unequal contest approaching them. He resolved to share their fate, and encouraged and prepared them for the defence they so nobly sustained. From that moment till his death, it is well known how he devoted all the powers of his mind and body, till he sacrificed health and life to the people he had saved. It is well known, how, in the varying circumstances of danger and difficulty, in

which they were placed, every variety of quality and talent that could be called for, military skill and courage, political sagacity and address, were most conspicuously exhibited in this remarkable man.

Deeply did the Board and all the friends of the Society lament that he was not spared to meet them, and receive the warm tribute of thankfulness and admiration they were prepared to offer him. But his parting moments were cheered and sustained by far higher consolations. He could look back upon a life given to a great cause, to incalculable blessings which he had been made the instrument of conferring upon two Continents of people.

He has left a name to be remembered by generations to come, when those that may be more illustrious now on the pages of history, will be forgotten. To express our gratitude for the gift of such a man, and our reverence for his memory, he would offer a resolution to which all hearts would respond.

Resolved, That this Society is penetrated with the deepest regret for the loss of their invaluable Colonial Agent, J. Ashmun, Esq. and that as a tribute of respect for his worth, the Board of Managers be instructed to cause a suitable monument, with an appropriate inscription, to be erected over his grave.

Mr. Mercer proposed an addition to this resolution, which was adopted, viz.

That another monument be erected to his memory in Liberia.

WALTER JONES, Esq. moved the following:

The time having arrived when the diffusive beneficence of the plan, and the great political and moral results from the labours of this Society, are so well and so generally understood, as to dispense its founders and advocates from the necessity of dedicating their principal efforts to explain or to justify its principles or its tendencies to the great body of patriots and philanthropists in the country; it has become the more essential duty of them, who are duly impressed with the important truths unfolded by the doctrines and the experiments of this Society, to press on with untiring activity, and unquenchable ardour, to the practical accomplishment of their own theory, by all the means that sagacity and determined perseverance can render available, and not to disparage the very cause of humanity, of public good, of social and individual improvement, by making all public spirit and active virtue appear but as a dream of speculative benevolence.— Among the most available and practicable means of establishing an adequate fund, to supply the indispensable wants of the Society, the meritorious plan suggested by Gerrit Smith, Esq. of Petersboro', New York, deserves the highest commendation. Whilst it would ensure a permanent fund for the operations of the Society, it brings the contribution of that fund within the compass of the great mass of men possessing moderate, but independent fortunes, without a sacrifice of any of the comforts or enjoyments that a well-regulated mind ought to wish or expect from the possession of worldly wealth, therefore,

Resolved, That the plan proposed by Gerrit Smith, to raise 100,000 dollars, by subscriptions of 1000 dollars, payable by instalments, in ten years, be recommended to all the real well wishers and active supporters of the Society.

In commenting upon the resolution, Mr J. contended that enough had been done to meet and to remove the various objections with which the design of the Society had had to contend. It was now time that its friends rested from their speculative labours, and turned their attention to the practical means of advancing and securing the great interests of the Colony, the happy victory of benevolence over force. By peacefully restoring to Africa that of which we had forcibly robbed her, the Society would accomplish a double benefit. It would not only remove from the trunk of the great national tree, a morbid excrescence, whose growth must only terminate in the ultimate destruction of both, but by separating it and placing it in a kindred soil, would plant a germ whose branches might overspread another continent, and bear abundant fruit in all the blessings of education, morals, freedom, and the arts. He deprecated the idea of remitting exertions which had been so successful, pressed the obligation which rested upon those who had thus given being to an infant State never to abandon its interests, or yield to any difficulties which might present themselves in consummating so noble a design. They were now called to exercise the sagacity and energy which ought to distinguish the founders of Republics.— Mr. J. referred with commendation to a scheme first proposed by Gerrit Smith, Esq. of New York, for the securing of pecuniary aid, and which consists in the pledging of a definite sum ultimately to be paid, but which is to be advanced by easy but certain instalments. This would show the Board on what they might calculate, and enable it to graduate its measures by its means.

A. RANDALL, Esq. presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be given to the Clergy of all denominations, who have taken up collections for its benefit on the Fourth of July, and that they be earnestly requested to continue their efforts in aid of this Institution.

Mr. R. made a short address on the subject of the resolution, offering a merited tribute to those who had availed themselves of the enthusiasm produced by the recurrence of our national birth-day, and poured into the treasury of the Society a multitude of “drop-like” contributions, which, though individually of small amount, when united, formed a great and valuable stream.

The Hon. Mr. MARKS offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Institution be presented to

the several Auxiliary Societies throughout the Union, for their efficient efforts, and liberal contributions to the Society during the last year.

MR. CLAY rose to perform a duty which he had hoped would have devolved on some other member of the Institution. But before he presented the resolution, which he held in his hand, he could not deny himself the gratification of offering to the presiding officer, to the Board of Managers and others here assembled, the congratulations which belong to the occasion. How different is the present triumphant position of the Society from what it was a few years ago! He recollected about twelve years ago, when some fifteen or twenty gentlemen assembled in a room, not eighteen feet square, of a tavern in this place, to consult together about this great scheme. They formed a constitution, and organized the Society. We all remember what scoffs and taunts it subsequently experienced, how the timid were alarmed, how the ignorant misconceived or misrepresented its object, and how both extremes—the partizan of perpetual slavery, and the friend of unqualified, immediate and universal emancipation, united against us. We have triumphed over all these obstacles. Prejudice has yielded, the ignorant have acquired information, and converts are daily made. The Report read this evening shows the flourishing condition of the Colony.

Among the circumstances of the past year, which are worthy of particular felicitation, are the formation of State Societies, in two neighbouring Commonwealths. One of these has been organized, in a manner calculated to make a deep impression, in a State which has always exercised, and must ever continue to exert great influence on the affairs of this Confederacy. The other has been formed in a State, her daughter, to which I belong as a citizen. In the constitution of each, some of the most eminent citizens of the respective States concurred. We may anticipate, with much confidence, the best effects from both. The past year had brought forth another most gratifying incident. Our fair countrywomen, always ready to sanction schemes of religion, humanity and benevolence, have manifested a warm approbation of that of the Colonizing Society. They have, in several instances, formed themselves into auxiliary associations, and have otherwise contributed to the promotion of the great object of this Society. Their co-operation was wanted to complete the circle of moral exertion. They are entitled to our grateful thanks. It is to propose the expression of them, in the shape of a resolution, that I have now risen.

Mr. President, said Mr. C. we have a cause inherently good. It is supported by some of the best, the most virtuous, and eminent men of our country. The Clergy, of all denominations, almost unanimously support it, and daily offer up their prayers for its success. Our fair countrywomen give us their cheering countenance and encouragement. The God of Heaven, (he believed from his very soul) is with us. Under such auspices, we cannot fail.

With zeal, energy, and perseverance we shall subdue all difficulties and ultimately realize every hope.

He offered the following resolution: -

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Society be presented to our fair countrywomen, who contribute by their countenance, association, and their donations, to the success of the Society.

The Secretary of the Society, Mr. GURLEY, rose and said,

All the members of this Society, I doubt not, have heard with peculiar gratification, of the establishment during the year, of State Societies in Virginia and Kentucky. The influence of these states, on the great question presented to this Union, by the Society, cannot fail to be felt to the extremities of our land, and must conduce most powerfully to the success of the cause which we have assembled to advance. The resolution which I intend to submit, recommends that the system of organization already partially adopted, should be extended throughout the United States, nor can it fail, if thus extended, to affect the State Legislatures and the nation at large; it proposes the formation of a State Society auxiliary to the Parent Institution, with subordinate associations in the counties or towns of the several states, in every state of the Union. Such a system, I can say with confidence, has long been regarded by the whole Board of Managers, as of vast importance, well suited to produce those triumphant results which are cherished, as objects of hope, at least, by all the friends of this Institution. A resolution similar to that which I hold in my hand, was adopted at the last Annual Meeting of the Society, and I trust we shall continue to recommend the plan until it shall be universally adopted. I trust we shall repeat our expressions of opinion on this subject, until a moral and christian influence in favour of this Society, has reached every heart in our country; until we have not one, but many flourishing Colonies on the African coast, from which shall emanate the pure and benign lights of Science and Religion to cheer and to regenerate a land long injured, and long involved in darkness and crime. Providence has favoured us, nor does the history of Colonization furnish a parallel to our success. Our friends are able and numerous, and from the most remote parts of this Union, do they look with interest to our proceedings to-night. But we see only the dawning of the day. Let this animate us: for the light now faint, gives promise of noonday brightness. I hope this resolution will be adopted, and that from the efforts of this Society the present year, we shall witness the happiest and the best results.

Mr. GURLEY then presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Institution has heard with great gratification, of the establishment of State Colonization Societies in Virginia and Kentucky, and that the experience of another year has confirmed it in the opinion, that the formation of similar Societies, throughout the Union, with subordinate associations in the several counties or towns of each State, is highly important,

and deserves the serious attention of all the friends of the Society.

Rev. Mr. HAWLEY moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Society will cherish a sincere and respectful regard for the memory of Dr. William Thornton, late a valuable member of the Board of Managers.

Rev. Dr. LAURIE offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Society are deeply sensible of its obligations to Richard Smith, Esq. their Treasurer, for his able and gratuitous services during the year.

It is with great pleasure, said Dr. Laurie, the Rev. mover, that I rise to offer a resolution embracing a vote of thanks to the Treasurer of this Society. The benefits resulting from the judicious and efficient labours of the Treasurer, he remarked, had been peculiarly felt, and were highly prized by the Board of Managers, and by those more immediately connected with him in his official character. Often in cases of depression and perplexity have they been relieved by his counsel, and by his energy. Nor ought it to be unnoticed that his invaluable services have been rendered without fee or reward, other than that which springs from the consciousness of being instrumental in planting on the shores of Africa, a Colony, where the blessings of civil and religious liberty are already enjoyed, and from whence it is confidently hoped light and life and gladness shall be diffused through all the regions of that vast continent.

The Hon. Mr. STORRS then said,

That he was grateful to be able to assure the meeting that the objects of the Society had begun to excite much interest in parts of the Union which were exempt from the evils incident to that personal relation which was yet recognized in many of the States. The Society would find sure evidence of this feeling, in the generous offer made by Mr. Gerrit Smith, alluded to in the Report of the Board of Managers. Mr. S. said that he resided near Mr. Smith, and spoke in high terms of his public spirit, his purity of life, exemplary piety and benevolence.

Mr. S. said that when the Society was first instituted, he was one of those who doubted its success, and believed its objects to be unattainable. So great did the undertaking then appear to be, and so chimerical had it been generally considered, that few thought it worth the trouble of very close examination. He was one of that great mass who had reflected very little on the subject, and it was perhaps, not too much to say, that the objects of the Society were not, for some time after its formation, fully and fairly understood. He was satisfied from the success which had thus far followed its exertions, that the colonization of the free black population of the Union on the coast of Africa, was practicable. So far as what had been done already, was to be considered in the light of an experiment; it had been

eminently successful, and promised to realize all which its sanguine supporters had hoped for. The Report which had been read, showed that the Colony had prospered as highly during the time since it was founded, as the first settlement of New England, so far as any physical obstacles to its progress were to be overcome. It may have, perhaps, superior natural advantages. The state of the world, too, was more favorable now to such an enterprise. It was, he continued, due to candor to say, that he was convinced that it was deserving of more general support than it had received, and hoped that the efforts of its patrons would meet with general encouragement to perseverance.

Mr. S. expressed the belief that there had been some misunderstanding between different parts of the Union, in respect to the views of each other on the subject of the condition and emancipation of the coloured population in the States. He was quite sure that in the Northern States, there was no opinion generally prevailing, that immediate, absolute, and universal emancipation was desirable. There might be, said Mr. S. some who are actuated by pure motives and benevolent views, who considered it practicable; but he might say with confidence, that very few, if any, believed that it would be truly humane or expedient to turn loose upon the community more than a million of persons, totally destitute of the means of subsistence, and altogether unprepared in every moral point of view, to enjoy or estimate their new privileges. Such a contemporaneous emancipation of the coloured population of the Southern States could only bring a common calamity on all the states, and the most severe misery on those who were to be thus thrown upon society, under the most abject, helpless and deplorable circumstances. He might say, however, and he trusted that there was no part of the Union where such a sentiment was not favorably entertained, that every truly philanthropic man and every friend of our common country looked forward in the confident hope that the period would arrive, when, at some future day, that great work should be ultimately accomplished. It was to be treated, however, by all, as a work of time and prudence, and not of mere feeling. He believed that causes were in operation, and daily developing their influence, that were calculated to convince those most directly and most deeply concerned in that subject, that it was a question which invited their careful and early examination. Desirable as such an event might be to any, it was false humanity to disperse such a number of our fellow beings, of all ages and both sexes, through the country, to perish for want, to fill up the jails and penitentiaries, or to sink to the lowest and basest degrees of vice and crime. The success of such a policy could only end in their final extirpation. Still the question of emancipation could not in the nature of things be long avoided, and must be met at last. He thought that two points might be affirmed in reference to it, which none could deny—that it was impracticable to collect this people together at any future time, on this continent, at any place or under circumstances that would ensure their happiness, and that even under any plan,

which had in view the only practicable result—gradual emancipation—the first steps to be taken were those preparative measures which only could render their emancipation a blessing at all. No stronger motive could be addressed to the human heart, than that which the measures of the Society held out, to enable them to estimate the value of freedom. Instead of being turned out upon the world, without the means of support, and without hope, the emancipated are offered an asylum, where with the first enjoyment of liberty, they may rationally know its value and realize its blessings. Under the patronage and protection afforded to them in the Colony, every inducement is presented to persuade them to feel that their happiness is in their own power. They cannot fail to find in the equality of their condition, and the sure rewards of industry, the greatest encouragements to perseverance in their exertions. The acquisition and enjoyment of separate property for themselves and their families, and the rules of descent must there set in motion those principles of action in the human heart, which lay at the foundations of social happiness, and all well-regulated human government. To this are added the blessings of education and religious instruction. Why, Mr. President, said Mr S. should we doubt that the African is susceptible of the highest degrees of moral and social improvement? We do wrong to human nature in every situation of life, to judge of its capacity unfavorably, merely because we find that despotism and paganism degrade and debase the human character. This Colony, too, planted by you on the shores of Africa, is a Christian Colony, and its growth is strengthened under the moral influences of our religion. If liberty is power in the social state—and if knowledge is power—so too, above both, is Christianity power. Mr. S. then referred to facts stated in the Annual Report, from which he drew the conclusion that the state of the Colony was prosperous beyond what could have been expected at so early a period, and that the operation of its moral as well as political institutions promised to realize the hopes of its founders and patrons. He thought that the benevolent and patriotic would find in the actual experience of its success hitherto, a pledge on which they could rely, that their final hopes should be realized, in respect to our own country. The plan of the Board of Managers had thus far proceeded under most discouraging circumstances from its commencement. In spite of public opinion, and with extremely limited and precarious resources, it seemed to have been sustained by the influence of super-human power. It has certainly, said Mr S. attained a point of success, which it was not expected to have reached so soon, and there was no reason to think that its prosperity was to be checked. Its final success must depend on the perseverance of its patrons, and surely all will admit that to abandon the experiment at the present favorable point of its progress, would be to trifle with the demonstrations of the safest and most instructive of all teachers—experience.

If, said Mr. S. its prosperity shall be continued, the debt which, not only our own country, but the civilized world owes to Africa, may be paid.

Who can foresee in what results your efforts may end? They are not for us to know, and it is not for man to set the limits of those blessings which may flow in upon that benighted and afflicted country, from the establishment there of an educated and Christian State. We may hope, however, without presumption, that these blessings may not only be perpetuated to those whom we may colonize there, but shall extend and expand their beneficent and resistless influence, till whole nations of the human family shall be gathered within the pale of civilization and christianity.

All the preceding resolutions were adopted with great unanimity.

It was then

Resolved, That the fourth article of the Constitution of the Society, be so altered, that the time fixed for the annual meeting of the Society, shall be the third Monday of January.

After the President had retired, on motion by Gen. C. F. MERCER, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be presented to the Hon. Bushrod Washington, the President of the Society, for the dignified and able manner in which he has presided over the proceedings of this meeting.

The Rev. Mr. RYLAND, of this city, was elected a member of the Board of Managers, in the place of Dr. RANDALL. The other officers remain the same as in the last year.

OFFICERS.

Hon. BUSHROD WASHINGTON, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD, of Georgia.

Hon. HENRY CLAY, of Washington City.

Col. HENRY RUTGERS, of New York.

Hon. JOHN C. HERBERT, of Maryland.

ROBERT RALSTON, Esq. of Philadelphia.

Gen. JOHN MASON, of Georgetown, D. C.

SAMUEL BAYARD, Esq. of New Jersey.

ISAAC MCKIM, Esq. of Maryland.

Gen. JOHN HARTWELL COCKE, of Virginia.

Rt. Rev. Bishop WHITE, of Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM H. FITZHUGH, Esq. of Virginia.

Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, of Boston.

Hon. CHARLES F. MERCER, of Virginia.

JEREMIAH DAY, D. D. of Yale College.

General LAFAYETTE, of France.

Hon. JOHN MARSHALL, of Virginia.

Hon. RICHARD RUSH, of Washington City.

Bishop MCKENDREE.

PHILIP E. THOMAS, Esq. of Maryland.

Doctor THOMAS C. JAMES, of Philadelphia.

RICHARD FIELD, M. D. of Virginia.

Managers.

FRANCIS S. KEY, Esq.

Col. HENRY ASHTON,

WALTER JONES, Esq.

Dr. THOMAS HENDERSON,

Rev. JAMES LAURIE, D. D.

Rev. JOHN N. CAMPBELL,

Rev. S. B. BALCH, D. D.

W. W. SEATON, Esq.

Rev. O. B. BROWN,

SAML. H. SMITH, Esq.

Rev. WILLIAM HAWLEY,

Rev. WM. RYLAND.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY, *Secretary.*

RICHARD SMITH, *Treasurer.*

JOHN UNDERWOOD, *Recorder.*

Rev. ISAAC ORR, *Gen'l. Agent and Assis't. Sec'ry.*

REPORT.

It is with deep and solemn grief, that the Managers find themselves compelled, at the commencement of their Twelfth Report, to announce an event more melancholy than any which it has heretofore been their duty to record; an event which while it has filled with sadness ten thousand hearts throughout this Union, has overwhelmed with sorrow the Colony of Liberia.

While the meeting will perceive instantly, that allusion is made to the decease of the late Colonial Agent of this Society, Mr. Ashmun, it will readily believe, that the Managers find it difficult to select language which will express adequately, either their respect for his character or their sense of the loss which the African cause has sustained by his death.

No one who has been familiarly acquainted with the conduct of our departed Friend since he has stood at the head and directed the energies of the African Colony, will be surprised to learn, that the disease of which he died was excited by excessive and well nigh unprecedented efforts to fulfil nobly and successfully the duties of his station. In the month of January last, these duties had increased to such an extent that, to adopt his own language, "days and nights were too short." Returning from a fatiguing visit to the

leeward settlements, he is urged, almost simultaneously, to settle affairs with no less than six vessels, (some of which had just arrived with emigrants, and were anxious for a speedy departure,) to defend the settlement against the threatened attack of a piratical Spaniard, to confer with several kings in the interior, and conduct a tedious negotiation for opening a new trade path into the country, to engage in a long and difficult judicial investigation, to allot to the new comers their several plantations, and to direct all the complicated proceedings of the entire Colony; so that the wonder is rather that his constitution, already enfeebled by a long residence in a tropical climate, and a weight of cares which might have prostrated a more vigorous frame, should have endured so long, than that it should at length have sunk beyond the possibility of recovery. He was attacked by a violent fever on the 5th of February, and continued for many days on the very verge of life. But ever unmindful of himself when public duty called, the daily intervals of reason were employed in giving instructions which might secure the interests and aid the progress of the Colony.

Favoured by Heaven with sufficient strength to arrange every thing in preparation for his absence as his last hope, he embarked amid the tears of the Colonists, in the *Doris*, for the United States, on the 25th of March, and after incredible suffering, arrived at St. Bartholemews on the 9th of May. Here he enjoyed the kindest attentions and the best medical advice, and though at one time reduced so low that the faintest hope of his convalescence seemed expiring, yet a sudden accession of strength enabled him on the 16th of July to take passage for New Haven, at

which port he arrived after a long, and to him a very distressing voyage, on the 10th of August. Though extremely reduced, the cheering sight of his native shores, the friendly salutations and sedulous kindness of the citizens, and the efforts of physicians anxious to preserve so invaluable a life, inspired him for a few days with new vigour, and awakened hopes which were, alas! but too soon to perish. Scarcely a week had elapsed before he found himself sinking; and a friend informed the Board, that in order to confer with him by one of its members, no time was to be lost. The Secretary of the Society arrived at New Haven just twenty-four hours before he expired. At this awful crisis of nature's trial, Mr. Ashmun exhibited a mind elevated above the reach of calamity, and awaiting with unruffled composure and cloudless serenity, the great transition. Profoundly humble before the Eternal Majesty, the voice of human approbation was painful to him; while detaching his affections from every earthly object, he gathered power for his last conflict from the Divine promise and grasped in triumph the Christian's hope. Those who entered his chamber felt that it was a sacred place. With a child-like simplicity of manner and expression, and charity the most affecting, they saw blended traits of heroic fortitude and apostolic magnanimity. Affliction could not extinguish the ardour of his soul, and often did his pale features glow with a light which seemed reflected from that brighter world he was so soon to enter. The love of country so beautifully described by the Roman Poet,

“*Coelumque*

Adspicit, et dulces moriens reminiscitur Argos,”

was but a feeble sentiment compared with that cherished by our friend towards the Colony which had so long been the field of his labours. To this were given (as far as more solemn and personal duties would permit) the thoughts of his last hours, and on this he implored the divine blessing in his last supplication. The final evening of his life found him giving instructions concerning the education of a little African boy, his attendant, who had been rescued by him from pirates, and in conversing with great interest and animation concerning the state of the Colony; and having fulfilled every duty which seemed to demand his attention, at 12 he gently slept in death.

Thus terminated the life of one whose name has long been identified with the cause of this Institution. Heaven has taken him, and to its mandate we bow. Let us thank God that he was spared to effect so much, and that the power of his example will be deathless as his fame. Gifted with those great and rare endowments, intellectual and moral, indispensable to success in enterprises of vast and enduring utility; an understanding clear and comprehensive; judgment profound and exact; invincible courage and unyielding perseverance; an industry and activity which made moments productive, and which necessity alone could limit; a disinterestedness ever happy when conferring happiness on others; and a lofty spirit of devotion, kindled and sustained by communion with God, and ruling all his faculties for the Divine honour; he seemed chosen by higher wisdom than ours to found in Africa a Christian Nation. It is not possible for the Managers, on this occasion to present even a brief history of Mr. Ashmun's exertions, nor can the present

age estimate the importance of their results. They will be better known when we shall see nothing to regret in the institutions of our country, and when humanity and religion shall have achieved their last triumph over the miseries of Africa.

But the Board have a further mournful duty to discharge in recording the death and in expressing their respect to the memory, of Dr. William Thornton, one of the earliest and most faithful friends of Africa, from the origin of the Society an efficient member of the Board of Managers, and who ever with heartfelt attachment contributed his counsels and his efforts to promote the adoption of judicious measures in aid of our cause and their successful execution. The attention of Dr. Thornton was attracted to the subject of African Colonization while a young man, and with philanthropic enthusiasm, he determined to become himself the conductor of the free coloured people of America to the land of their ancestors. A number were prepared to place themselves under his direction, but want of adequate funds prevented the fulfilment of his design. The hope however that the scheme of African Colonization would finally receive the public sanction he continued to cherish, and the establishment of this Society was an event which gratified some of the purest and strongest feelings of his heart.

Though the death of individuals who have long taken so honourable a share in the operations of this Society, has deeply impressed the Board with the vanity of all expectations except those excited by confidence in God; yet in the review of the past year the Managers find much to awaken gratitude, enliven hope, and invigorate resolution.

It was stated by the Board in their last Report, that three vessels, the brigs Doris and Nautilus and schooner Randolph, had been despatched with emigrants during the autumn. The Doris with 107 passengers (sixty-two of which were liberated slaves) after a protracted passage of 61 days. arrived at Liberia on the 15th of January. A single death, and that of an aged and infirm female, occurred on the passage. The schooner Randolph, conveying 26 Africans manumitted by a single individual near Cheraw, S. C. completed her voyage of 34 days on the 17th of the same month, with all her passengers in perfect health. The Nautilus, with 164 persons principally from the lower counties of North Carolina, arrived on the 19th of Feb. 54 days from Hampton Roads. To prevent the disappointment of some who had perhaps too inconsiderately made arrangements to emigrate, a larger number than usual, considering the size of the vessel, had been permitted to embark in the Nautilus; and recollecting this fact and the unfortunate length of the passage, that four deaths should have occurred among the children, can occasion no surprise. The emigrants by the Randolph and the Nautilus, suffered little after their arrival from the climate, though the passengers by the Doris were severely afflicted and 24 of their number fell victims to disease. It deserves remembrance, however, that in the opinion of the Colonial Agent the season was one of the most unhealthy ever known; that the passage of the Doris had been nearly twice the usual length; that the mortality was confined to those who had occupied most northerly situations in this country, and that all the deaths occurred in Monrovia. "Draw a

line (says Mr. Ashmun) due east and west across Elkridge, Maryland, and not a death has invaded the people from the south of it." "There is (he remarks also) in comparing Monrovia and Caldwell, an average difference of temperature in favour of Caldwell of three and a half to four degrees, taking the heat of the 24 hours, at the two places, for months together. Except two children, I know not that ever an individual has yet died of fever at Caldwell." It is a subject of regret that this entire company was not immediately transferred to the St. Paul's; but besides that human sagacity could not foresee the calamity which was to visit them at the Cape, the earnestness with which their friends in Monrovia sought to retain them gave a force to their own inclinations to remain, which would yield to nothing short of a positive command of the Agent. Their stay was the more readily acquiesced in, because accommodations could not be found in Caldwell for the whole number (300) which had just arrived: and because some must and more were desirous, too many were permitted to continue in Monrovia.

The general health of the Colony has through the year, been uninterrupted; and additional experience confirms the Managers in the belief, that there is nothing in the African Climate to prevent the successful establishment of colonies of coloured persons from the United States, but that its influences are well adapted to the constitutions of the coloured race.—A slight indisposition soon after their arrival in Liberia may be expected, but subsequently they enjoy more vigour and exemption from disease than in countries without the tropics.

The general aspect of affairs cannot be better described than in the language of Mr. Ashmun.

“The established state of the Colony, a treasure of past experience, the confirmed health of the settlers, our better knowledge of materials for every useful work, and a path trodden smooth by use, begin now, as the fruit of perseverance in the unfavourable circumstances of former years, to requite in a fuller measure, the labour and expense bestowed on the improvements of the Colony. Every month adds to it some new acquisitions, discloses some new resources, or produces some new valuable improvements.”

In the testimony of Captain Nicolson, of the U. States' Ship Ontario, who on his return from the Mediterranean about the commencement of the last year, visited and spent some days at the Colony, and who spared no pains, to ascertain from personal inspection its true condition, the Managers have found a full and cheering confirmation of the statements of the Colonists themselves and of the Colonial Agent. Some may regard this testimony as the more valuable because coming from an intelligent officer who was entirely disinterested, and whom none dare accuse either of prejudice or enthusiasm. By this gentleman the Colonists are represented not only as contented and enterprising, but as making rapid progress in the most important public and private improvements, and exerting a salutary and extensive influence over the native tribes. “These tribes,” he remarks, “have begun to perceive that it is civilization and religion, which give superiority to man over his fellow man. What they see in their own neighbourhood has elicited a spirit of inquiry which must tend to their benefit,

and the Philanthropist may anticipate the day, when, as the Colony extends its settlements, the slave trade shall cease, and our language and religion shall spread over this now benighted land."

It deserves mention, as a fact clearly indicating the inviting and promising condition of the Colony, that eight coloured men of the Ontario's crew, highly recommended by Capt. Nicolson, having received the amount to which they were entitled, (nearly three years' pay,) were, at their own request, discharged from the ship, that they might become settlers in Liberia. The Board acknowledge with pleasure, their obligations to Capt. Nicolson, not only for the very friendly interest which he evinced in the affairs of the Colony, but for having, unsolicited, after he was informed of the destination of his ship, obtained from Tunis many valuable seeds, which, with others from the Archipelago and Asia Minor, he presented to the Colonial Agent.

A very valuable addition has, the past year, been made to the Territory of the Colony. Just before the illness of Mr. Ashmun, a company was chartered, with certain exclusive privileges for two years, to commence an Agricultural settlement, in connection with a public factory, distant 20 miles from Monrovia, at the head of navigation on the St. Paul's, the Dey or St. Paul's Chiefs having previously, for a small compensation, been induced to give their consent. The company proceeded to occupy the spot selected for the settlement on the 12th of February. A large tract of country, (including this settlement) the finest, in the opinion of Mr. Ashmun, which he had seen in Africa, easily to be cleared, abounding in streams of fresh wa-

ter (the St. Paul's itself being sweet at the falls) which had long been vacated and left as a sort of barrier between the coast tribes and the interior, was on the 14th of April ceded to the Society. From the acquisition of this, may be expected advantages of the most valuable, extensive and permanent character. Boatswain, a powerful chief, has already engaged to open a trade road from his own residence about 100 miles distant, but from the nearest part of the old route not more than fifty. Beyond the residence of Boatswain the roads are open, and for aught that is known, a free communication to the great cities of Central Africa.

It was stated in the last Report, that the whole right or western bank of Stockton Creek had been ceded to the Society, and a settlement upon it already commenced. In transmitting the deed, Mr. Ashmun remarks, "We have thus occupied Bushrod Island, which, containing a tract of 20,000 acres of fine level land, is destined at some future period, to become the orchard and granary of the Montserado district of Liberia." A country called Tabocanee, situated between Grand Bassa and Young Sesters, has been offered to the Society; but though abounding in coffee, and connecting two important stations, the sterility of the soil near the sea, and the want of any commodious harbours have rendered doubtful the propriety of its immediate acquisition. The question in regard to it, is still undecided. The native authorities at the head of Junk River, have expressed an earnest desire that a settlement should be established in their Country, which is represented as promising well for the interests both of Agriculture and Trade.

It is in contemplation among the Colonists, to form

an Agricultural establishment near the head of the Montserado River; and as the soil is good, and the attention of the people directed, with more than usual interest, to the culture of the earth, they will, doubtless, prosecute their plan with a commendable spirit. The Managers cannot but regard these facts, taken in connection with the detailed statements concerning Territory, in their last Report, as affording evidence the most conclusive, that a rich and almost unlimited country is opening to the enterprise of our Colonists, and that the difficulty is not to find lands the most inviting, but men and means to plant and improve them.

The two great interests of the Colony, its *Agriculture and Trade*, have advanced through the year, with a sure and regular, if not a rapid progress. Though to foster and extend the first of these, has been a primary object of the Managers and their Colonial Agent, yet truth demands the avowal, that to the latter is the Colony principally indebted for its unexampled prosperity. Nor can we reasonably expect, that this order of things will be speedily reversed.

It is a remark of the late lamented Agent, "that the sources of trade and commerce naturally belonging to the Colony, placed as it is, on the central part of a coast of vast extent, and bordering on populous and industrious nations in the interior of the Continent, are not a tenth part explored. And until they shall be (he adds) both explored and occupied, and so long as this vast field of commercial enterprise holds out new inducements to the settlers, to enter upon and cultivate it, is *agriculture* destined to *follow* in the train of *trade* and not to *lead* it." Admitting the correctness of this remark, yet the Managers find reason, from a careful

observation of the affairs of the Colony, during the year just past, to conclude, that if Trade is to lead, Agriculture is to follow not far behind, with a firm and assured step. A large proportion of the emigrants are by habit, entirely unprepared for any but agricultural pursuits; the knowledge which experience in trade has given to the early settlers, diminishes the chance of success to those who would now enter upon the same employment; several who have conducted an extensive traffic, have been made to feel the precariousness of hopes founded upon commercial speculation; and above all, the animating prospects of competency and abundance, clearly apparent before every industrious and persevering cultivator of the soil—these considerations have powerfully contributed to increase the disposition for agricultural exertions.

There remains not a doubt, said Mr. Ashmun, some months ago, that the products of the Colony will, the ensuing year, equal its consumption in every article except rice. Indeed, during the year, the spirit of agricultural industry and effort has, both at Caldwell and Millsburg (the new settlement on the St. Paul's) been exhibited with extraordinary energy, and in its results have been seen the most convincing proofs of the productiveness of the soil, and the best rewards of labour. The farmers of Caldwell have associated themselves into an Agricultural Society, at the weekly meetings of which, the members report individually, their progress on their plantations, discuss freely one or more practical questions, on which a vote is finally taken, and each question unanimously determined, is recorded as a maxim in the practical agriculture of the settlement. These maxims the members are pledg-

ed to reduce to practice. The Settlement of Millsburg commenced (as we have already stated) in the month of February, is represented as in the most promising way, and early in the last summer, the products of its farms had been sent down in considerable quantities to the market of Monrovia. An intelligent settler writes, "There are many fine mill-seats on this new territory, and it would be almost incredible if I were to state the many advantages which are here visible. Nothing appears to be wanting but means and men of industry, and in a short time the whole of the present Colony might be supported by its own inhabitants along the banks of the noble Dey, and in the adjacent country."*

Trade, however, is pursued by many with enthusi-

*It has occurred to the Managers that they might perhaps, gratify this meeting by here enumerating the different species of domestic animals, and the various products now rearing in the Colony, and which cannot hereafter be wanting, unless through the inexcusable negligence and indolence of the settlers. Of *Animals*, *Horses*, *Cattle* in abundance, *Sheep*, *Goats* in abundance, *Asses* are lately introduced, *Fowls*, *Ducks*, *Geese*, *Guinea Fowls*, *Swine* numerous—Fish no where found in greater quantities. *Fruits* are *Plantains*, *Bananas*, in endless abundance, *Limes*, *Lemons*, *Tamarinds*, *Oranges*, *Sousop*, *Cashew*, *Mangoes*, 20 varieties of the *Prune*, *Guava*, *Papaw*, *Pine Apple*, *Grape*, *tropical Peach* and *Cherry*.—Vegetables are *Sweet Potatoe*, *Cassada*, *Yams*, *Cocoa*, *Ground-nuts*, *Arrow-root*, *Egg-plant*, *Ocre*, every variety of *Beans*, and most sorts of *Peas*, *Cucumbers*, *Pumpkins*. Grains are *Rice*, the staple—*Indian Corn*, *Coffee* excellent and abundant—*Pepper* of three varieties, of which each is equal to *Cayenne*—*Millet* and *Guinea Corn*—*Cotton*, staple good, but not yet cultivated. To these may be added *Indigo*, which, it is thought, may be raised to advantage, and the *Sugar-Cane*, which may, and doubtless will, ultimately receive attention.

astic ardour and great success, and while individuals have derived from it a very valuable profit, it has contributed most essentially, to the general prosperity.— It is carried on with the natives, through the factories along the coast, or at home, with the tribes of the interior, and with vessels from the United States. It must (as has already been remarked,) be regarded as in its infancy, and new sources will, probably, be annually developed in the wide and productive countries, and among the populous, powerful, but as yet, unvisited tribes of the interior. At the commencement of the year four small schooners had actually gone abroad in the Coasting trade under the flag of the Colony—several others were about to sail, most of which had been built and fitted out at Monrovia. While great efforts have, during the year, been made, to explore the St. Paul's River, to commence an intercourse with the more remote tribes and to open in various directions, new channels of trade; from our own cities many vessels have been sent thither; an unusual interest and spirit of inquiry has been excited among commercial men, concerning the Liberian trade; and more than all, Providence has brought before the Society, an individual, (now about to embark for Africa) singularly qualified to extend our knowledge and influence, and to facilitate communication with the distant, but powerful nations of the interior. The Board allude to Abduhl Rahhahman, the unfortunate Moorish Prince. This man was born in the City of Tombuctoo, of which place, his grandfather Almam or (Alimamy) Ibrahim or (Abrahima) was the King. When Prince was at an early age, his Father Almam Ibrahim was sent to Foota Jallo, a populous and fertile country as large as

New England, twelve hundred miles distant from Tombuctoo, of which Teembo is the capital, then a dependency of Tombuctoo, but which subsequently became independent, and elevated Alman Ibrahim to the throne. Having passed some portion of his youth at Teembo, Prince returned to Tombuctoo, and there finished his education. Having entered the army of Foota Jallo he soon distinguished himself, and at the age of 26, while conducting a war with the Hebohs, (a tribe on the north of Foota Jallo) was finally taken with almost his entire army, transferred to a slave ship, carried to the West Indies, thence to Natchez, and there has remained in slavery 40 years.

A providential occurrence, of the most rare and wonderful character, has resulted in the emancipation of Prince, and under circumstances the most auspicious, he now stands ready to embark for the Colony of Liberia. Dr. Cox, a surgeon on board an American vessel, trading on the African coast, having landed and missed his way on shore, was left by the ship, and under these circumstances, resolved to penetrate into the Country. He travelled several days, during which he received a severe wound in the leg, and arrived sick and friendless at the Capital of Foota Jallo. Here he was received by the father of Prince and by Prince himself, with the utmost kindness, and having enjoyed their hospitality for six months, returned to America in the same vessel, which, on her previous voyage, had been compelled to abandon him. After Prince had been sixteen years a slave, he one day recognized Dr. Cox in the streets of Natchez. The interview was one of affecting interest, and liberal but unsuccessful offers were made by Dr. Cox to obtain

freedom for one to whom he felt himself so deeply indebted. Recently, however, the proprietor of Prince expressed his readiness to liberate him; and application was made for his removal to Africa, to the Executive of the Union. Recollecting the kindness shown by this unfortunate man while in other circumstances, to a distressed American citizen, with a liberality most honourable to this Department of the Government, Prince was taken under its protection, and is now to be restored by it to the land of his nativity, his home and his friends. Nor does he depart unbefriended by the public. The story of his misfortunes has excited deep sympathy in the minds of our countrymen, and about \$4,000 have been contributed to aid the ransom of his family; some, if not all of which, it is hoped, will soon enjoy with him the privileges of a Colony, which charity and religion have founded for the benefit of the Coloured race. The Managers indulge hopes of great and permanent advantages to the Colony, from the return of this captive Moor. Several African languages he can still speak, and the Arabic is written by him with facility. Among his family connections, were many of the most powerful chieftains in the countries intermediate between Teembo and Tombuctoo, and on the throne of Foota Jallo, only 200 miles distant from Liberia, in 1825 sat his brother, (represented as of a most amiable and unwarlike disposition) *Abduhl Kadre*. Prince seems now resolved to make his home and find his grave in Liberia; but should his views change, he will be assisted without delay to return to his own country. Wherever may be his future residence, he is disposed to aid by his influence the Colonial trade with the Interior,

and would gladly bring the communities with which in early life he was acquainted, into habits of friendly, commercial, and christian intercourse with the settlements of the Colony.

A few public buildings have been commenced, and several valuable ones completed the last year. It has been deemed more judicious to finish those already undertaken, than to attempt to make large additions to their number.

The recaptured Africans introduced by the Norfolk, a little more than a year since, are represented as in a condition vastly improved; "orderly, easily governed, and willing to labour, they have proved a valuable acquisition to the Colony." In August last, lands were to have been assigned to them, and it is probable that at this time, they are living entirely upon the products of their own industry.

The Managers are happy in the belief, that the Colony possesses ample means of defence against any possible combination of the natives, or of the pirates on the coast. The entire military organization of the Colony, depends for its extent, discipline and strength, upon the public spirit of the people, and yet nearly every able bodied man, not specially exempted, has enrolled himself, as a member of some uniformed corps. Four companies, two of infantry, and two of artillery, and a detachment of twenty guards, enlisted or drafted for one year, from the body of the citizens, for the purpose of manning the Battery, constitute the militia, which trained as it has been, under the eye of the late Agent, and inspired with confidence, by repeated and remarkable success, leaves no ground for apprehensions of public danger.

In the system of Education, the Managers can report no important improvements. The Schools are numerous, the teachers attentive and faithful, and every child in the Colony enjoys the benefit of their instructions. These instructions, we regret to say, are limited by the ability of the teachers, to the simplest branches of knowledge, and cannot be expected to form that intellectual character, which the condition of the Colony requires. But the Managers trust, that the time is near, when better means of education shall be enjoyed, when men of colour shall be prepared in this country, to conduct the schools of the Colony, with enlightened minds and entire success. Particularly do they feel inspired with this confidence, in view of the recent establishment of the African Mission School Society, an institution, the avowed object of which, is to educate young men of colour, that they may become missionaries or teachers in Africa, and which patronized by the venerable Bishops of the Episcopal Church, and under the direction of gentlemen from every part of the Union, distinguished alike by talents and piety, can hardly fail to fulfil adequately, its very interesting and important design. None, surely, can tend more directly or efficiently, to promote the best interests of our Colony, as well as the whole cause of African improvement.

The Managers have reason to believe that moral and religious duties, receive from the Colonists, the same faithful and strict attention, which has for several years excited the admiration of strangers, and given them a powerful influence over the heathen tribes. But the want of an enlightened ministry, is severely felt, and was indeed regarded by the late Colonial

Agent, as "the most urgent of all the actual necessities of the Colony." "How it is in other parts of the world, he remarks, I know not, but in this Colony I have seen the direct and inseparable connection of christianity, taking in its doctrines, its worship, and its practical fruits—with all that is mentally and morally improving, all that is exalting to human nature—in a word, all that is good and excellent among us." Sunday schools have recently been established throughout the Colony, two of which are for the benefit of native children. The effects of these have been salutary, but as remarked by Mr. Ashmun, they are partial and inadequate, operating only on the child, while the parents remain unprofited. But such, he adds, as worthily sustain the office of the ministry, come with an authority, which none dare wholly despise.

Impressed with similar sentiments, the Board have witnessed, with no ordinary pleasure, the determinations of several Missionary Associations, in this country, and that of a similar society in Switzerland, to send Missionaries to Liberia; and while anticipating from their operations, vast benefits to the Colony, they have predicted still more cheering consequences to the uncivilized and wretched native population. Unfortunately the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which more than a year ago, resolved to enter upon the field so widely and invitingly presenting itself in Africa, have as yet, been unable to find suitable persons to advance as pioneers in the difficult but glorious work. The Episcopal Missionary Society has been called to mourn the loss of the Rev. Jacob Oson, a coloured minister of devoted piety, who died while just preparing to embark under their pa-

tronage for Liberia. But the Evangelical Missionary Society of Basle, Switzerland, have set a most honourable example. Five single Missionaries, bearing commissions from this Society, liberally educated, yet familiar with the agricultural and mechanic arts, arrived in Liberia about the commencement of the year, and by the latest accounts, were all in good health. "These Missionaries, (says the venerable Dr. Blumhardt, in his letter to the Board) whom only the love of Christ has urged to leave their country and friends, and who are ready to spend and be spent for the salvation of their African brethren, enjoy our full confidence, and we beg leave to recommend them with heartfelt concern, to your christian kindness and protection. Every mark of help and support shown to our beloved Missionaries, will be looked at with cordial thankfulness, not only by our own Committee, but also by the numerous friends in Switzerland and Germany, who are wishing well to our undertaking." The attention of this mission has been directed to Grand Bassa, as the place for a permanent establishment, but on this subject, the Managers are yet ignorant of the final decision. But of this, they are assured; that civilization and christianity, will find in no heathen country on the globe, fewer obstacles, or feebler opposition to impede its progress, than in Africa.

"In the chain of great moral causes, says Mr. Ashmun, it may be no trivial event, that a school has been opened by the Baptist Missionary of the Colony, 35 miles in the interior from Cape Mount, and 65 or 70 from Montserado, for the instruction of the children of the Vie Nation. It commenced with 35 scholars, and is decidedly patronized by the first Chiefs of the nation,

who declare it to be their purpose *to clothe and train in all respects to the habits of civilized life, all the youth who receive its instructions.*"

The system of government has experienced no important change, and its success has continued uninterrupted and undiminished. After the departure of Mr. Ashmun, all the duties of the Colonial Agency devolved upon the Vice Agent, the Rev. Lot Carey, and for six months were fulfilled by him in a manner highly creditable to his integrity and his understanding.—The instructions which he received from Mr. Ashmun have been faithfully obeyed, and all the complicated affairs of the Colony been superintended with vigilant and persevering attention.

It having been ascertained that Liberian vessels, entering the ports of the United States, would be liable to the duties imposed on foreign tonnage, the Managers have deemed it right (in order to place the Colonists on an equality in trade with the citizens of other countries,) to exact the small duty of 25 cents per ton from all American vessels, and of 50 cents per ton from all foreign vessels trading to Liberia.

In attempting to select an individual for the Colonial Agency, the Managers were so happy as to find among their own number, a gentleman, well qualified by intellectual character, strict integrity, and philanthropic sentiments for the important station which has long been so ably filled. This was Dr. Richard Randall, of this city, who having voluntarily offered himself, cheerfully accepted the appointment, and accompanied by Dr. Mechlin, (a young physician of great promise, elected as the Colonial Surgeon) sailed for Liberia. early in November.

Having attended to the most important topics, more immediately connected with the Colony, the Board now turn to the progress and prospects of their cause in this Country. No preceding year has developed so much to elevate our hopes, and add vigour to our exertions, as that which has just elapsed.

The Fourth of July collections, upon which we have depended so much, have been liberal, though small compared with the merits of the object they are designed to aid, and less than we trust they will be in each future year. We respectfully invite the attention of our friends generally, and especially the ministers of Christ, to this subject. We solicit them to make themselves well acquainted with our views and prospects, both with regard to this country and to Africa, and we have no fear of the result. Their own consciences will then make the strongest appeal in our favour, and will induce them to contribute their efforts and their influence in reducing to a reality some of the brightest prospects of Religion as well as of Liberty.

Peculiarly interesting and auspicious have been the events relating to our Society and the Colony, in the State of Virginia. The Managers regard this circumstance as most gratifying and encouraging, inasmuch as Virginia, in the foreground of the Southern States, intimately acquainted with the designs and operations of this Society, cannot be supposed either willingly or ignorantly to betray the common interests of our Southern Community. Yet with a firm and decided tone does she advocate our cause, and show herself ready to promote its prosperity, by her best efforts and her commanding influence. In addition to her contributions, on a very liberal scale, of funds, and of sentiments in

our favour the most enlightened, a State Society has recently been organized, under cheering auspices, and with the fairest prospects of eminent success.

In Kentucky too events are, perhaps, equally propitious. A correspondent observes, "a large majority of both houses of our Legislature are thorough going in favour of the removal of our coloured people to Africa. So great has been the recent change of opinion here, on this subject, that unable to find an adequate secondary cause of such a result, it has strengthened my belief that God is for us. A resolution has been unanimously adopted, to form a State Colonization Society—and our success will be triumphant."

The Ladies of our Country, begin to manifest, not only individually, but by association, their attachment to this cause, and signally to put forth their efforts and exert their influence to advance it. In Richmond and Petersburg, Va. they have honourably led the way in this noble exercise of feeling, and in these truly laudable and generous achievements. Their example has been already imitated by the Ladies of Georgetown, in this District; and the flame of that pure and virtuous enthusiasm thus kindled, has already warmed many a female bosom in our neighbouring cities. Nor can this enthusiasm be arrested. The claims which our scheme presents to the understanding and hearts of Christian Ladies, are too urgent and affecting to be neglected, or set aside by them, most susceptible as they always are to good impressions, and most prompt and active in all good works.

In their last Report, the Managers announced the plan of a Gentleman in the State of New York, to secure \$100,000 to the Society by annual subscrip-

tions of \$100 each for ten years. Twelve individuals have already come forward and subscribed in aid of this munificent scheme, and the Board are informed of others who intend soon to participate in its accomplishment. At this bright period of their expectations the Managers will not despair of the speedy and entire fulfilment of a design so generously devised, so highly important, and to which the ability of the numerous wealthy friends of the Society is altogether adequate. Let the project be once generally and seriously considered, and its execution is certain.

It has been proposed by a Gentleman in Ohio, to raise a fund of \$20,000 by subscriptions of \$50 each, to be expended in the purchase of a ship for the Society; and several hundred dollars have been secured for the object. The plan is so feasible, and promises so much benefit to the Society, that the Managers feel bound to solicit in its favour, the thoughts and contributions of their friends throughout the Union.

Nearly six hundred free persons of colour are, at this moment, seeking a passage to the Colony of Liberia. Many of these are of the most respectable in their class, who it is believed, will be no expense to the Society, after their arrival at the Colony.

The disposition to emancipate slaves for the purpose of colonizing them, is making progress with a rapidity far exceeding the means of the Society, and perhaps, equal to the wishes of all the sober and judicious friends of Freedom. The Managers have long known that thousands were connected with the system of slavery from necessity and not from choice; and that they stood ready to confer freedom on their slaves, whenever it should appear evident that this could be done with benefit to

those liberated and without detriment to the public welfare.

One hundred and sixty-five slaves have the year past been offered to the Society by six individuals, and for more than two hundred is a passage now sought to the African Colony. Of some of these, the expense is defrayed by their proprietors; while the sacrifice incurred in giving freedom to others, has fully equalled the means of individual benevolence.

The great demand made upon the Treasury of the Society in consequence of the three expeditions despatched last year, (expeditions which, so far as the ability of the emigrants was concerned, were less fortunate than usual,) and the too limited means of the Board, have prevented any attempts to add to the numbers of the Colony until the present month. But the Managers are happy to state, that the ship *Harriet* is now chartered, and nearly ready to sail from Norfolk, with a select company of about 170 emigrants. Every necessary preparation has been made by the Colonial Government to transfer this company, immediately after their arrival, to the healthy settlements on the *St. Paul's*.

The slave trade still exists, and exists under circumstances, and to an extent, revolting alike to every humane and christian sentiment. The Managers fear that its speedy suppression is not to be expected.— Though all christendom has resolved to abolish it, yet the love of gain still stimulates the hardened in crime to attempt at all hazards their depredations upon human liberty, and too often are they successful.— But the Colony of Liberia is evidently checking the evil at its source, and will be found, the Managers

trust, a powerful means of implanting in the breasts of barbarians, sentiments of social and fraternal affection.

In obedience to a resolution of the Society, the Managers presented a Memorial to the Congress of the United States at its last session. The Select Committee of the House submitted a Report decidedly favourable to the views of the Memorialists, while that of the Committee of Foreign Relations in the Senate, was of an opposite character. But the Managers cannot believe, that an enterprise involving interests so great, and so intimately connected with the national welfare, and which requires for its full accomplishment the amplest resources, will finally be deemed unworthy the consideration and aid of the National Government.

With the hope of extending the operations of the Society and augmenting its funds, the Managers have recently appointed as General Agent and Assistant Secretary, the Rev. Isaac Orr, a gentleman in whose talents, integrity and piety, they have undoubting confidence. Funds alone are wanting to give new impulse and illustrious success to the cause of this Institution.

For these, then, in conclusion, the Board make their appeal to the gentle charities of the female mind—to the pious sentiments and persevering benevolence of the Christian Ministry—to the Patriot who devotes himself to his country's cause, and the Philanthropist who identifies his own interests with those of the world—to the State Legislatures—and, in fine, to this NATION, elevated as it is, by the hand of God, to unexampled prosperity, and blest with power to diffuse the mingled lights of Liberty, Science and Religion, over half the Globe.

The American Colonization Society in Account Current with
RICHARD SMITH, Treasurer.

1828.

Feb.	1,	To N. Jewett for expenses of Office,	\$5 80
	"	" Rev. M. Henckle on account of services as Agent,	206 63
	2,	" J. McPhail, freight of provisions and passage of emigrants to Liberia,	106
	11,	" R. P. Dunlop, amount of his expenses on a journey to Harrisburg, Pa. on business of the Society, ..	33 84
	"	" Way & Gideon, balance of account for Printing, ..	14 34
	17,	" R. R. Gurley, on account of Salary,	500
	21,	" Rev. M. Henckle, bal. of ac't. due him as Agent, ..	72 53
March	10,	" John Kennedy, amount of account for Salary, rent of Office and contingencies,	163 37
	"	" W. Ropes, for balance due the late Rev. H. Sessions, for services rendered as Agent,	231 36
	11,	" Thomas & George, for amount of Invoice of Hardware, sent to Liberia in November last,	326 03
	24,	" R. R. Gurley, for expenses incurred by him on account of the Society,	20
April	1,	" Rev. B. O. Peers, on account of services as Agent, ..	152 55
	14,	" Rev. James R. Nourse, expenses incurred as Agent, ..	162 37
	"	" James C. Dunn, balance of his account for printing Repository,	399 93
	"	" John A. Kennedy's acc't. for postage for 3 months, ..	29 59
	28,	" R. R. Gurley, to defray expense to New York, on business of Society,	50
May	13,	" J. Ashmun's draft in favour of A. D. Williams, ...	111 70
	14,	" Samuel Fish, for balance due for carrying out emigrants to the Colony,	485 17
	"	" Dr. J. W. Peaco, for services at the Colony,	200
The four following drafts for supplies for the Colony—			
June	5,	" J. Ashmun's draft in favour of Captain R. Edwards, ..	237 09
	14,	" ditto ditto ditto Captain Woodbury, ..	192 20
	15,	" ditto ditto ditto Cap. Samuel Fish, ..	411 17
	16,	" ditto ditto ditto Benjamin Brand, ..	144
	"	" John Kennedy's salary, rent of Office, &c.	152
	"	" R. H. Douglass, on account of freight and passage of emigrants to the Colony,	2,464 88
	"	" J. Nourse, to defray his expenses on business for the Society,	40

Amount carried forward, \$6,912 55

1838.	Amount brought forward, \$6,912 55			
The four following drafts for supplies for the Colony—				
July	5,	" J. Ashmun's draft in favour of Lot Carey,		85
	6,	" ditto ditto ditto ditto,		133
	16,	" ditto ditto ditto Capt. W. Matthews,		478 97
	25,	" ditto ditto ditto Capt. Willis Allen,		670 14
	29,	" B. O. Peers, balance due him for services as Agent,		50 45
August	5,	" C. C. Andrews, on account of board and tuition of Washington Davis, a youth of colour,		35
	7,	" Lot Carey's draft in favour of John Andrews, for supplies to the Colony,		93 80
	11,	" Rev. William Hawley, to defray his expenses while on business of the Society at N. York, and Vt. &c.		50
	16,	" Lot Carey's draft in favour of W. Ropes, Esq. for supplies to the Colony,		989 89
	"	" J. A. Kennedy, for postage 3 months,		26 13
	20,	" R. R. Gurley, expenses on a visit to Mr. Ashmun, at New Haven, Connecticut,		40
Sept.	9,	" J. Kennedy's Salary, rent of Office, &c.		142 81
	"	" J. C. Dunn, for printing,		200
	11,	" J. McPhail, charter of brig Nautilus,		1,200
	22,	" J. R. Nourse, expenses and compensation,		112 81
	26,	" R. Andrews, expenses of Washington Davis,		12 82
	"	" Richard Randall, salary as Agent,		400
	29,	" John Este, for stationary, &c.		14 40
Oct.	11,	" J. McPhail, for transportation of Colonists,		800
The three following drafts for supplies for the Colony—				
	12,	" Lot Carey's draft,		1,470 50
	16,	" ditto ditto,		535 97
	24,	" ditto ditto,		161
	"	" Dr. Joseph Mechlin, on account of Salary,		100
	"	" J. A. Kennedy, for postage,		48 26
Nov.	17,	" C. C. Andrews, for board, &c. W. Davis,		31 15
	"	" R. R. Gurley, for provisions furnished by Captain Matthews,		20
	18,	" R. R. Gurley, for expenses on a journey,		40
	"	" Dr. Laurie, on account of W. Draper,		7
	25,	" William Draper,		68
Dec.	9,	" J. Kennedy, for Salary and rent of rooms,		130 92
	15,	" Dr. Laurie, on account of W. Draper,		75
	22,	" R. R. Gurley, for Salary,		450
	31,	" J. Ashmun, for balance of account,		874 40

Amount carried forward, \$16,459 97

1829.	<i>Amount brought forward, \$16,459 97</i>	
Jan. 7,	To C. C. Andrews, for support of W. Davis,	42 24
15,	" Rev. Mr. Orr, for Salary as Assistant Agent,	200
" "	" J. A. Kennedy, for postage,	31 48
" "	" Rev. William Hawley, for expenses to Vermont,	10
21,	" Lot Carey's draft for supplies,	225
1828.	Discounts paid on monies borrowed, viz.	
July 15,	On \$1,800,	\$19 20
August 6,	On 1,500,	16
Sept. 16,	On 1,800,	19 20
Oct. 7,	On 1,500,	16
Nov. 16,	On 500,	2 83
	18, On 1,800,	19 20
Dec. 9,	On 1,500,	16
	108 43
Nov. 16,	To amount reimbursed of monies borrowed,	500
Dec. 18,	" ditto ditto ditto ditto,	500
1829.		
Jan. 21,	" balance in hand, including \$76 counterfeit notes,	1,484 81
		<u>\$19,561 93</u>

Supra CR.

1828.				
Jan. 31,	By balance in hand, including \$71 counterfeit notes,			\$240 12
Feb. 29,	" donations to date, per Repository,			2,124 21
April 1,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			680 86
30,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			310 21
May 29,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			568 70
June 30,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			383 73
July 21,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			822 31
Aug. 19,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			1,416 30
Oct. 30,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			2,939 31
Nov. 30,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			940 88
Dec. 27,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			1,609 73
1829.				
Jan. 20,	" ditto ditto per ditto,			1,932 93

Amount carried forward, \$13,969 29

Amount brought forward, \$13,969 29

1828. And also by proceeds of notes and bills discounted as follows:—

June 5,	By proceeds of \$1,800,	\$1,787 10	
10,	" ditto of 1,500,	1,485 75	
Sep. 12,	" ditto of 800,	796 46	
Oct. 14,	" ditto of 1,000,	994 33	
17,	" ditto of 500,	500	
		<hr/>	5,562 64
	" overcharge in Ashmun's draft, 11th Feb. 1828, .		30
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$19,561 93

Jan. 21, By balance in hand, including \$76 in counterfeit notes, \$1,484 81

E. E. January 22, 1829.

RICHARD SMITH,

Treasurer American Colonization Society.

APPENDIX.

(PAGE 21.)

Office of the American Colonization Society.

WASHINGTON, May 18, 1825.

At a special meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, the digest of the laws, and the plan of civil government for Liberia, as adopted by the Agents of this Society, having been read and considered, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the Board of Managers, considering the satisfactory information afforded by recent accounts from the Colony, of the successful operation of the plan of the civil government thereof, as established by their Agents in August last, and seeing therein reason to reconsider their instructions to the Agent of the 29th of December, 1824, now approve of the principles in that form of government, and give their sanction to the same.

Resolved, That the digest of the laws be referred to a committee to examine the same, and compare them with the Constitution and laws of 1820, and report to the next stated meeting.

Office of the American Colonization Society,

WASHINGTON, MAY 23, 1825.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers, this day, the committee appointed at the last meeting, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:—

Resolved, That the Board, having considered the digest of the laws now in force in the Colony of Liberia, dated August 19, 1824, as prepared by the Agent, do approve the same, and declare the same to be, under the Constitution, the law of the Colony, adding thereto the following: In case of failure to find recognizances for good behaviour, when required, the person so failing shall be subjected to such labour on the public works, or other penalty as the Agent shall prescribe, until he shall find re-

cognizance, or the object for which it was required of him shall have been answered.

In all cases of banishment, where the banished person has no heir in the Colony, the land held by him shall revert to the Colony.

Resolved, That this declaration of the law of the Colony, shall not be construed to annul or impair any regulations which the Agent, under his constitutional authority, may have seen fit to establish subsequent to the above date of August 19, 1824.

Resolved, That the Resident Agent cause to be printed two thousand copies of the Constitution, government, and laws, of the Colony of Liberia, as established by this Board at Washington, 23d May, 1825.

JAMES LAURIE, *Acting President*.

R. R. GURLEY, *Resident Agent*.

CONSTITUTION

For the Government of the African Colony at Liberia.

ARTICLE I. All persons born within the limits of the Territory held by the American Colonization Society, in Liberia, in Africa, or removing there to reside, shall be free, and entitled to all such rights and privileges as are enjoyed by the citizens of the United States.

ARTICLE II. The Colonization Society shall, from time to time, make such rules as they may think fit for the government of the settlement, until they shall withdraw their Agents, and leave the settlers to the government of themselves.

ARTICLE III. The Society's Agents shall compose a Board, to determine all questions relative to the government of the settlement, shall decide all disputes between individuals, and shall exercise all judicial powers, except such as they shall delegate to Justices of the Peace.

ARTICLE IV. The Agents shall appoint all officers not appointed by the Managers, necessary for the good order and government of the settlement.

ARTICLE V. There shall be no slavery in the settlement.

ARTICLE VI. The common law, as in force and modified in

the United States, and applicable to the situation of the People, shall be in force in the settlement.

ARTICLE VII. Every settler coming to the age of twenty-one years, and those now of age, shall take an oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution.

ARTICLE VIII. In cases of necessity, where no rule has been made by the Board of Managers, the Agents are authorized to make the necessary rules and regulations, of which they shall by the first opportunity, inform the Board for their approbation; and they shall continue in force, until the Board shall send out their decision upon them.

ARTICLE IX. This constitution is not to interfere with the jurisdiction, rights, and claims, of the Agents of the United States, over the captured Africans and others, under their care and control, so long as they shall reside within the limits of the settlement.

ARTICLE X. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except by an unanimous consent of all present, at a regular meeting of the Board of Managers, or by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at two successive meetings of the Board of Managers.

The Board received from the Colonial Agent, Mr. Ashmun, early in last year, a plan of Government, exhibiting several deviations from the form sketched in 1824, but in its principles the same. These deviations Mr. Ashmun remarks, "have grown gradually out of the altered and improving state of the Colony, and are neither the offspring of a rash spirit of experiment, nor have they been made without evident necessity." At a meeting of the Board of Managers, October 22d, 1828, it was determined to consider the revised Constitution or form of Government, submitted by Mr. Ashmun, and after due deliberation, it was

Resolved, That the Constitution as modified by the Colonial Agent, Mr. Ashmun, and as now in operation, be hereby adopted.

PLAN OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT FOR THE COLONY OF LIBERIA.

The necessity of a mild, just, and efficient civil Government, for the preservation of individual and political rights among any

people, and the advancement of true prosperity, induces the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society to adopt, after mature consideration, the following system of Government, for the proper regulation of public affairs in the Colony of Liberia.

ARTICLE I. The Agent of the American Colonization Society, resident in the Colony, possesses within the same, sovereign power, subject only to the Constitution, the chartered rights of the citizens, and the decisions of the Board.

ARTICLE II. All male coloured people, who have subscribed the oath to support the Constitution, and drawn, and not forfeited lands in the Colony, shall be entitled to vote for, and be eligible to the civil offices of the Colony.

ARTICLE III. The Civil Officers of the Colony shall be appointed annually: and the polls for the general annual election of the Colony, shall be opened on the last Tuesday in August, and continue open not more than three, nor less than two successive days, in the different Settlements.—Elections shall be organized by the Sheriff, by the appointment in each Settlement, of a President, two Judges, and two Clerks.

ARTICLE IV. The Colonial Officers eligible by the annual suffrage of the freeholders, in which the Agent has the right to interpose his negative, assigning to the voters in time to renew the choice at the same election, his reasons for such interposition, are, *for the Colony*, a Vice-Agent, two Counsellors, a High Sheriff, a Register, and a Treasurer: and for each of the Settlements consisting of not less than sixty families, two Commissioners of Agriculture, two Commissioners to form a Board of Health, and two Censors.

ARTICLE V. The Vice-Agent shall be admitted to the council of the Agent in all important matters; and shall express an opinion on all questions submitted to his consideration. He shall aid the Agent in the discharge of his various duties, and in the support and execution of the laws; and in the event of the Agent's absence, or sickness, the Vice-Agent shall become the General Superintendent of Public Affairs.

ARTICLE VI. The Vice-Agent with two Counsellors, shall constitute a Council; who shall meet when requested by the Agent, to deliberate on the interests of the Colony, and the measures to be taken for their security and advancement.

The Vice-Agent shall also advise with the other members of the Council, on any subjects connected with the general welfare, as often as he shall think it proper; and report the result to the Agent if proper, or act upon the same, in case of his absence.

ARTICLE VII. The duty of the Counsellors shall be, to aid the Agent, or Vice-Agent, with their advice and counsel, on subjects relating to the general welfare of the Colony, whenever thereto requested by either.

ARTICLE VIII. The High Sheriff shall, either by himself or his deputies, aid in the organization of elections; act as Marshal for the Government of the Colony; execute all processses, judgments, and commands of the Court of Sessions, and perform, generally, the services required of the same Officer, by the common laws of England and the United States.

ARTICLE IX. The Secretary of the Colony shall take charge of, and carefully keep all the papers, records, and archives of the Colony, generally; shall attend and exactly record the doings of the Agent in Council; shall publish all the ordinances, and legal enactments of the Government; publish Government notices; issue the Agent's orders, civil, military, and judicial, to the proper functionaries; deliver a fair copy of Government papers necessary to be recorded to the Register of the Colony; and manage its internal correspondence on the part, and under the directions of the Agent.

ARTICLE X. The Register shall record all documents and instruments relating to the security, and title of public or individual property; Government grants; patents; licences; contracts and commissions; and all other papers which are properly a matter of record, and to which the Government of the Colony shall be a party.

Every volume of records when completed, shall be delivered by the Register, to the Secretary of the Colony, for preservation, among the archives of the Colony.

ARTICLE XI. The Treasurer of the Colony shall receive and safely keep all the monies, and public securities required by law, or the judgment of courts to be deposited in the public Treasury, and shall deliver up, and pay over the same, only by a requisition signed by the Agent, or Vice-Agent of the Colony; to whom he shall render a statement of the public finances on the Monday preceding the annual Election of the Colony.

ARTICLE XII. The Commissioners of Agriculture shall report, and serve as the organ of the Government, on all subjects relating to the Agriculture of the Colony.

The Commissioners composing the Board of Health, shall report, and serve as the organ of the Government, on all subjects relating to the health of the Colony; shall ascertain the proper objects of medical attention; report nuisances prejudicial to the public health, direct their removal; and make themselves generally active in diminishing the sufferings and dangers of the settlers caused by sickness.

Each of these Committees shall record, for the future use of the Colony, all important observations and facts relating to the subjects of their charge.

ARTICLE XIII. The two Censors shall act as conservators of the public morals, and promoters of the public industry; and be obliged to all the duties, and invested with all the legal powers, on whatever relates to the public morals and industry, which are lawfully required of, and possessed by grand jurors, in such parts of the United States as recognize such auxiliaries to their magistracy.

It shall be the special duty of these officers to ascertain in what way every person, in their proper districts, acquires a livelihood; to report or present idlers; detect vicious or suspected practices; and present for legal investigation and cure, every actual, or probable evil, growing out of the immoralities, either of a portion of the community, or of individuals.

ARTICLE XIV. The Judiciary of the Colony shall consist of the Agent and a competent number of Justices of the peace, created by his appointment. The Justices shall have cognizance of all cases affecting the peace, and of criminal cases within the definition of *petit larceny*, and all actions of debt not exceeding twenty dollars. In the court of monthly Sessions, whether acting as a court of law, or a court of equity, the Agent or Vice-Agent shall preside, and the Justices be his associates.

The court of Monthly Sessions shall have original Jurisdiction in all actions of debt, in which the amount in litigation shall exceed twenty dollars; and in criminal causes above the degree of *petit larceny*; and shall have appellate jurisdiction in all civil causes whatsoever.

The requisite number of Constables for the Colony shall be appointed by the Agent annually.

A Clerk and a Crier of the Court of Sessions shall also be appointed by the said Court, annually.

An Auctioneer, who shall conduct all auction sales except those of the Sheriff and Constables, in pursuance of the judgment of the Courts of the Colony; shall also be created by annual appointment of the Agent.

A Store Keeper, Librarian, Commissary of Ordnance, to be appointed by the Agent, shall be respected and obeyed in matters belonging to their respective functions, as officers of the Colony.

Instructors in all public schools having the sanction of a public charter, or participating in any degree in the public funds, shall be appointed and employed by the regular school committees of the Colony, but with the Agent's approbation and concurrence.

All Custom, Port, Infirmary, Medical, Guard and Police Officers, not appointed by the Managers of the Colonization Society, and whose services are required and defined by the laws of the Colony, together with the public Measurers, Inspectors, and Appraisers, shall be appointed by the Agent of the Colony.

ARTICLE XV. The Militia of the Colony shall consist wholly of such uniformed Volunteer Corps as shall obtain charters under the Government of the Colony; of which charters, the following shall be fundamental articles:

1st. That the Corps shall always comply with any requisitions for their services, either wholly or in part, made by the executive Government of the Colony.

2nd. That the Corps shall ever preserve and hold themselves and their arms and equipments in a state of readiness for actual service, at the shortest notice.

3rd. That the Officers be commissioned by the Agent: and

4thly. That they shall muster, parade, and serve in the line of the Colony, under general Officers, when thereto required by the Executive Government.

General Officers shall be appointed by the Agent; and when especial reasons do not forbid, shall be taken from the Officers of the several Corps, and promoted according to rank, and the seniority of their commissions.

All Military Officers and delinquencies, shall be tried by a General Court Martial, to be composed, except the Officers and Guards of the Court, of Commissioned Officers; and to sit quarterly.

A correct Copy.

J. ASHMUN.

Digest of the Laws now in force in the Colony of Liberia, August 19th, 1824.

1st. Sedition, mutiny, insubordination, or disobedience to the lawful authorities, are high misdemeanors, and punishable either by the Justice, Court of Sessions, or prerogative of the Agent, as the case may be.

2nd. Quarrelling, riot, drunkenness, Sabbath breaking, profaneness, and lewdness, are infractions of the public peace, and punishable, by sentence of Justices, or of the Court of Sessions, with fine, imprisonment, standing in the stocks, or whipping.

3rd. Persons having violated the peace, or committed the misdemeanors specified in section first, on being discharged from custody, must find recognizances for their good behaviour.

4th. Simple theft, in which the property stolen shall be less than five shillings, is petit larceny, and shall always be punished, in pursuance of sentence of Justices, or Court of Sessions, by a fine of fourfold the value of the property stolen, and the culprit to find recognizances in twenty times the amount.

5th. Grand larceny, and all felonies, punishable, in pursuance of judicial sentence, with whipping and imprisonment, either in irons or not, or by a term of labour in chains on the public works. In case of failure to find recognizances for good behaviour, when required, the person so failing shall be subjected to such labour on the public works, or other penalty as the Agent shall prescribe, until he shall find recognizance, or the object for which it was required of him shall have been answered.

6th. Every able-bodied male person, receiving rations, is to labour for the public, under the superintendence of the Commissioner for Public Works, two days in each week. Every person is to be considered in good health, who shall refuse to report

himself, and afford satisfaction of his inability to labour, to the Committee of Health.

7th. Every able-bodied person as aforesaid, or person not reporting his indisposition as aforesaid, neglecting to labour on public works, or negligently attending to his own domestic labours, during the four days of each week allowed him, shall, on the representation of the Committee of Public works, be immediately, together with his family, put on his own resources.

8th. No person forfeiting his rations, shall have them restored in less than one month.

9th. Persons obstinately refusing to acquiesce in the express decisions of the Board of Managers, shall, on conviction thereof by a court of justice, forfeit all their real estate in the Colony, and be compelled to leave it.

10th. Persons trespassing on unappropriated lands by cutting or removing timber, or other property, are liable to exemplary damages.

11th. No person is to reside on the lands of the Colony, without permission of the Society, or their Agent.

12th. Expulsion from the Colony may take place on conviction for offences directly affecting the peace and good government of the same; and when ordered by the Society, in punishment of any misdemeanors, in their judgment deserving that penalty.—The property of exiles to pass to their next heirs resident in the Colony. In all cases of banishment, where the banished person has no heir in the Colony, the land held by him shall revert to the Colony.

13th. The party in any judicial trial, is entitled, if he desire it, to trial by jury.

14th. The common law, and usages of the courts of Great Britain and the United States, to regulate all judicial proceedings.

15th. All persons are permitted to dispose of property by will. The estate of intestates to be committed, with letters of administration, to administrators appointed by the Agent.

16th. In all lands appropriated to settlers, every third lot, when practicable, shall be reserved for public uses.

17th. No person shall own lands who does not reside in the Colony, and cultivate at least two acres, or carry on, with con-

sent of the Agent, some mechanical trade, and build a substantial house on his town lot.

18th. A substantial house, to answer the requisition of the preceding section, must be, 1st. of sufficient extent to accommodate the family. 2nd. Built of stone, brick or pise; or of frame or logs, weatherboarded, and covered with tile or brick.

19th. All settlers, on their arrival, shall draw town lots and plantations, for which the Agent is to give them a certificate, specifying their number, and the time of drawing. If, within two years from that date, two acres of land on the plantation shall have been brought under cultivation, the town lot cleared and enclosed, and a legal house built, the said certificates may be exchanged for a title deed of such lands, to be held thereafter in fee simple.

20th. All town lots are to be enclosed by the proprietors with a good fence; any person neglecting to make such a fence, shall be answerable to his next neighbour for all damages he may sustain from the neglect, by application to the Committee of Agriculture, who shall proceed as directed in the laws of the 13th August, 1823. (See Journal under date of November 24, 1824.)

21st. Persons holding town lots or plantations, are to keep the streets contiguous thereto, clear of weeds and brush to the centre, and cultivate any trees which may be planted thereon. Neglects in these cases are to fall under cognizance of the Committee of Agriculture, who are to proceed as in the law referred to in the preceding section.

22d. Every married man, besides a town lot, shall have for himself five acres of plantation land, two for his wife, and one for each child, if they are with him: *Provided*, That no single family shall have, in all, more than ten acres.

23d. No colonist shall deal with the natives of the country for lands.

24th. Nothing but articles of necessity are to be given or expected in the rations issued from the public stores.

25th. Missionaries are permitted to reside, coming out with the approbation of the Society, so long as they devote themselves to their sacred functions.

The Funeral of Mr. Ashmun was attended by a very numerous concourse of citizens, (the Governor of the State, and the Faculty of Yale College being present,) and an able and eloquent Sermon was delivered in the Centre Church, by the Rev. Mr. Bacon. We give an extract from this very valuable discourse.

“Our departed friend has died a victim to his labours and sufferings in the cause of benevolence. Several years ago, after having watched for some time with an active and growing interest, the progress of the measures which had been commenced to relieve this nation from the pressure of a deadly evil, and to bestow on Africa the blessedness of freedom and religion, he gave himself to the work in which he has now died. He reached the field of his labours, at a time (August 1822,) when the Colonists had just been removed from the unfortunate location to which treachery had at first conducted them, and were taking possession of the newly purchased territory of Liberia. He found the few colonists alone, not a single white man there, the only surviving Agent having just before embarked in ill health for the United States. He found them almost without houses to protect themselves from the rains of their inclement season, which was then at its height, much less able to afford shelter for the new emigrants who had accompanied him. He found the establishment just ready to sink in disorder and dismay. The settlers were almost defenceless. The native princes, who had sold them the territory with the treacherous intention that they should not settle there, were threatening to destroy them, and were forming combinations for that purpose. In such an emergency it was, that he came to a work entirely new. He had been educated for the work of preaching the gospel. He had been a teacher in a literary institution. He was still a young man. And now he had come to place himself at the head of an unorganized, feeble, heterogeneous community. He was to act the Legislator;—he was to form and put in operation, a system of government; he was to sway the minds of this unformed mass of human beings, and mould them into unity; he was to make them freemen, and habituate them to the business of governing

themselves. At the same time he must act the Soldier;—he must rouse in his little flock of once degraded men, the spirit of manhood and the enthusiasm of self-defence, and he must head them in the conflict. He must act the Engineer;—he must lay out the fortifications of his little city, and superintend their hasty construction; he must take care that the very dwellings—even the temporary huts and shelters of the people, are constructed with reference to security from the enemy, and facility of defence in an assault. All this must be commenced at once, for delay was ruin. And just as all this was commencing, the fever which attacks almost every man on his first arrival from a temperate to a tropical climate, attacked him and the fifty emigrants who had come with him, with uncommon violence. They were all sick—sick without a physician—sick without any proper shelter from the rains—sick almost without medicines. His own wife, among others, was soon carried to the grave. But for him, and for all, there was no time to relax their efforts. Even in sickness and distress, there could be no respite. Their works must go on; for, daily and nightly, they were expecting that an army of savages would be upon them. While prostrated by disease, in the lucid intervals between the returns of delirium, our friend was compelled to rise from his sick bed, to inspect the condition and progress of these operations, to receive reports, to give out orders, to reanimate the weary and desponding, and to superintend all the affairs of this dismayed and distressed community. All this he did; and when at last the fever had left him in extreme debility, and he was just beginning to recover strength, the danger which they had been so long apprehending, came. About three months after his arrival, when their defences had been only partially completed, and when their entire effective force was thirty-five men and boys, they were attacked at the dawn of day, by a force of at least eight hundred armed savages. They were taken by surprise, and the enemy were almost in the midst of them before the alarm was given. By an effort of desperate valor, directed by the extraordinary self-possession and energy of our departed friend, the enemy were driven off, and the settlement on which were suspended so many hopes of humanity and religion was delivered. A few days afterwards, while the wounded were still helpless, and the well were ex-

hausted with constant fatigue and watching and alarm, the enemy returned with redoubled numbers and redoubled rage for their destruction; and again, by a valor and energy which would do honor to the history of any man or any people, they were repulsed, and utterly defeated.

I have thus described the commencement of his labours and sufferings in Africa, because there is no other way in which I could so well describe his character: inasmuch as it is only by what a man has done, that we can ever distinctly understand what he has been. And what sort of character it was that could act thus in circumstances such as these, it is not difficult to divine. Let me say then, that the same energy, the same self-possession and promptitude, the same exhaustless diligence, the same vigor and quickness of intellectual power, the same courage amid difficulties and dangers, have been exhibited in all his labours there. The establishment which he found on the brink of extinction, he left in prosperity and peace. The little colony which he found defenceless, weak and trembling with dismay, he left so strengthened, as to be safe against any probable attack by land or sea. The people whom he began to rule when they were few, unorganized, and disunited, he has successfully trained to habits of discipline, and taught to enjoy the blessings of rational liberty and real independence. And how well he has governed that people, how happy he has made them, how he has drawn their affections round him, their grief at his departure can testify. One of their own number, in whose hands our friend, on leaving the colony, placed the administration of affairs, thus speaks of the occasion of his embarkation for his native country. "The Colonial Agent, went on board the brig Doris, March 26, 1828, escorted by three companies of the military, and when taking leave, he delivered a short address which was truly affecting. Never, I suppose, were greater tokens of respect shown by any community on taking leave of their head. At least two thirds of the inhabitants of Monrovia, men, women and children, were out on this occasion; and nearly all parted from him with tears. In my opinion, the hope of his return in a few months, alone enabled them to give him up. He is indeed dear to this people, and it will be a joyful day when we are permitted again to see him." Ah that day! What grief will be theirs, when they learn that they shall see his face no more.

Nor were this man's moral and social traits of character, inferior to his intellectual qualities. Distinguished as he was, for power and comprehensiveness of intellect, for rapidity of conception, for versatility of genius, for skill in the management of men: and for boldness and energy of action, he was no less marked by those traits of character, which command our affection, or secure our confidence. A mildness, and suavity, and affectionateness of disposition, and a disinterestedness which felt for all as for himself, was blended with that decision and energy, which we have already noticed. A patience under pain and trouble, a meek fortitude of spirit, which, instead of sinking under distress, or disappointment, or infirmity, is humbled indeed, but is humbled only to rise more majestic—was exemplified in many striking incidents of his history. A dignity of person and manner which arrested the attention of strangers, and which fitted him for command, was not in him inconsistent with a deep and unaffected humility, to which those who saw him on his death-bed, bear ample testimony. And the basis, the grace, and ornament of all these virtues, was his piety—a principle of love and confidence towards God, springing from the knowledge of his Son as Lord and Saviour. It was this which enabled him to bear with patience every burthen; to resist the struggles of a corrupted nature; to give himself to labour and to suffering, with the self-denial of a martyr; and at last to die, with a calm, thoughtful, untrembling confidence, which none but the christian can experience.

Such was he whose life has been spent, and prematurely exhausted in his zeal for Africa. Do you ask, to what purpose has he died? I would that we could stand together on the promontory of Montserado, and see what has been accomplished by those toils and exposures, which have cost this man his life. Hard by, we might see the island, where, a few years since, there was a market for the slave trade. To that place crowds of captives were brought every year, and there they were sold like beasts of burthen. From that place they were consigned to the unspeakable cruelties of thronged and pestilential slave-ships; and those whom death released not in their passage across the Atlantic, went into perpetual slavery. At that time, this cape was literally consecrated to the devil; and here the miser-

able natives, in the gloom of the dark forest, offered worship to the evil Spirit. All this was only a few years ago. And what see you now? The forest that has crowned the lofty cape for centuries, has been cleared away; and here are the dwellings of a civilized and intelligent people. Here are twelve hundred orderly, industrious and prosperous freemen; who were once slaves, or in a state of degradation hardly preferable to bondage. Here are schools, and courts of justice, and lo! the spire which marks the temple dedicated to our God and Saviour—strange land-mark to the mariner that traverses the seas of Africa. Here, for a hundred miles along the coast, no slave-trader dares to spread his canvass; for the flag that waves over that fortress, and the guns that threaten from its battlements, tell him that this land is sacred to humanity and freedom. Is all this nothing? Is it nothing to have laid on a barbarous continent, the foundation of a free and christian empire? This is the work in which our friend has died.

But this is not all. I look forward a few years, and I see these results swelling to an importance which may seem incredible to cold and narrow minds. I see those few and scattered settlements, extending along the coast, and spreading through the inland. I see thousands of the oppressed and wretched, fleeing from lands where at the best they can have nothing but the name and forms of freedom, to this new republic, and finding there a refuge from their degradation. I see the accursed slave trade, which for so many ages past, has poured desolation along twelve hundred miles of the African coast, utterly suppressed, and remembered only as an illustration of what human wickedness can be. I see the ancient wilderness, like our own wide forests of the west, vanishing before the march of civilized and Christian man. I see towns and cities rising in peace and beauty, as they rise along our Atlantic shore, and on the borders of our rivers. I see fair villages, and quiet cottages, and rich plantations, spreading out where now in the unbroken wilderness, the lion couches for his prey. I see the pagan tribes, catching the light of civilization, and learning from the lips of Christian teachers, to exchange the bondage of their superstitions, for the blessed freedom of the gospel. I see churches, schools and all the institutions of religion and science, adorning Africa as

they adorn the country of the pilgrims. I hear from the mountains, and the vallies, and along the yet undiscovered streams of that vast continent, the voice of christian worship, and the songs of christian praise. In all those scenes of beauty or of gladness, I see, and in all those accents of thanksgiving, I hear, to what purpose this servant of God poured out his noble soul in his labours of love.

Who asks us to what purpose is this waste? To what purpose! Thousands and thousands of the exiled sons of Africa, going back from lands of slavery, to enjoy true freedom in the rich and lovely land which God has given them, shall one day answer in their shouts of joy. To what purpose! Africa, delivered from her miseries, her chains thrown off, her spirit emancipated from the power of darkness, rising up in strength and beauty like a new-born angel from the night of chaos, and stretching out her hands to God in praise, shall one day answer, to what purpose this martyr of benevolence has lived and died.

Is there not then blessed *consolation* blended with the affliction of his death? What though he has died in the midst of life? What though he has died away from the endearments of home, away from the parting embraces of parents, and kindred, and early friends? Is not such a death better than an inferior life? What parent would exchange the memory of such a departed son, for the embrace of any living one? Who would not rather that his brother or his friend had lived such a life, and died so nobly for so noble ends, than that he were still living, and living for no such exalted purpose? Is not that life longest which best answers life's great end? Is that life short which has accomplished great results?

"Can death come
To him untimely who is fit to die?"

We may indeed weep when such a mind departs from the world which its labours have blessed. We may weep when such hopes of bleeding humanity are extinguished. But shall not triumph mingle with our tears? Shall not emotions of praise temper and alleviate our sorrow? He is not dead, but sleepeth. More; he is not dead to usefulness. His works still live. The light which he has kindled shall cheer nations yet unborn. His memory shall never die. Years and ages hence, when the Afri-

can mother shall be able to sit with her children, under the shade of their native cocoa, without trembling in fear of the manstealer and murderer, she will speak his name with words of thankfulness to God; and as she tells them the story of his devoted labours, and his early death, she will teach them to trace back their happiness, their advancing intelligence, their very safety, to the remote agency, under God, of the man around whose bier, it is now our lot—our privilege let us say, to mingle our tears.

His *example* shall speak. There have been men whose names are way-marks: whose examples, through successive ages, stir the spirits of their fellow men with noble emulation. What has been done for God, and for the souls of men, and for the cause of wretched human nature by the lustre which gathers around the name of DAVID BRAINERD. How many lofty spirits has the simple history of his toils and sorrows kindled and roused to kindred enterprise. Other names there are, which beam from age to age with the same glory. HOWARD, CLARKSON, SWARTZ, MILLS,—what meaning is there in such names as these. Our departed friend will add another to that brilliant catalogue. He takes his place

“Amid th’ august and never dying light
Of constellated spirits who have gained
A name in heaven by power of heavenly deeds.”

Let us praise God for the light of his example, which shall never be extinguished, and which, as it beams on us, shall also beam on our children, and our children’s children, moving them to deeds of Godlike benevolence.

“Praise! for yet one more name with power endowed,
To cheer and guide us, onward as we press;
Yet one more image, on the heart bestowed,
To dwell there, beautiful in holiness.”

Dr. Thornton was among the first who took the subject of African colonization into consideration, as will be seen by reference to Brissot’s Journal of a tour through the United States, published about the year 1792. The following is an extract.

“Dr. Thornton, intimately connected with the Americans

whom I have mentioned, runs a different career—that of humanity. Though, by his appearance, he does not belong to the Society of Friends, he has their principles, and practises their morals with regard to the blacks. He told me the efforts which he has made for the execution of a vast project conceived by him for their benefit. Persuaded that there never can exist a sincere union between the whites and the blacks, even on admitting the latter to the rights of freemen, he proposes to send them back, and establish them in Africa. This plan is frightful at the first aspect; but on examination, it appears to be necessary and advantageous.”

The following is an extract from a letter by Dr. Thornton to Sir Joseph Banks, Bt. President of the Royal Society, London, written in the year 1817.

“We are also engaged in devising a plan of colonizing the free people of colour in Africa. The only reparation that the whites can make for the ages of suffering, to which the blacks have been subject, it appears to me, is by establishing them in Africa, as a free and independent people, with their ports open to the whole world, and by teaching them the Christian religion; which they would again promulgate in that vast region of moral darkness: the doctrines of our Saviour might be spread over a portion of the earth that might otherwise remain in barbarism, or be overrun by the doctrines of Mahomed, which already extensively prevail: but the progress that the free blacks have already made in civilization in the United States, would, if they were placed in Africa, give them such a superiority over even the most enlightened of the Mahomedan race, that the influence of their skill in the arts and the morality of the Christian doctrines, would rapidly be diffused; and one of the richest countries on the globe, now in the desert state, would in time become morally enlightened, and the emancipated African would bring riches to the door of the European in return for manufactures.”

In his Will, written in 1828, he also says, in speaking of the Colony in Africa:

“It is the country of their fore-fathers, from which their ancestors have been withdrawn, probably to fulfil a great design of the Almighty, that they may learn the common arts and sciences, a system of good government, and above all, the religion of

our blest Saviour, Jesus Christ, and to teach on their return to Africa, the whole of that benighted people, who are estimated to be not less than 30,000,000 in numbers.—The glorious work is begun, and the Almighty prosper it. Amen.

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Great efforts were made, during the summer, particularly at the North, to raise the funds required to ransom the children and grand children (15 in number) of Prince, but only about \$4000, not quite half the sum demanded, was secured. This money is now in the hands of gentlemen in New York and Washington, and will, we doubt not, be faithfully applied towards the accomplishment of the object for which it has been given. The Rev. Mr. Gallaudett, Principal of the Asylum for the deaf and dumb at Hartford, Connecticut, very generously and perseveringly exerted himself in behalf of Prince, and is entitled to the thanks of all the friends of humanity. Prince and his wife are now in the ship Harriet, on their way to Liberia.

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Individuals of the first respectability, and too numerous to mention, from nearly every state of the Union, have stood forth as the advocates and liberal supporters of this Society. It is but justice, however, to state, that the Society is under peculiar obligations to Messrs. Charles C. Harper, and John H. B. Latrobe of Baltimore, for their vigorous and persevering exertions. They have engaged in efforts for the Society with a noble and disinterested spirit, and resolutely promoted its objects at no inconsiderable expense of time and labour. In their own reflections, they have a reward far more valuable than human praise; yet we could not escape self-condemnation, were we to withhold our grateful acknowledgments for their generous services.

The Rev. B. O. Peers of Kentucky is also entitled to our warmest thanks for his untiring and very successful efforts in

that State. He has already accomplished much, and should a kind Providence prolong his life, we are confident will do much more for the cause of this Institution.

In Mississippi, the Rev. Wm. Winans has called public attention to our plans, and excited an interest in the design of the Society.

The Committee appointed by the Managers in the lower part of Virginia, (consisting of Messrs. W. M. Atkinson, D. J. Burr, John M'Phail, and J. B. Harrison,) to aid in the collection of funds for the charter of the Harriet; fulfilled the object of their appointment, with great zeal and fidelity. Benjamin Brand, Esq. of Richmond, has ever shown himself ready to give time and attention to the affairs of our Society.

In preparing the Ship Harriet for her departure, and superintending the embarkation of the emigrants who took passage in her, Mr. M'Phail spent most of his time for several weeks, declining to receive a compensation for his valuable services. Such liberality merits the gratitude of all the friends of Africa.

Great efforts have been made by many other friends of the Society, to which it is not in our power to do justice in this note. We hope, that the present year, these efforts will be increased, and that they will be continued, until there shall exist in every State of the Union, an EFFICIENT STATE SOCIETY, well sustained by active auxiliaries, *in the counties or towns of its respective State.*

Memorial of the Auxiliary Society of Powhatan, for Colonizing in Africa, the Free People of Colour of the United States.

To the Delegates and Senators of the Legislature of
Virginia, in General Assembly convened:

The memorial of the Powhatan Auxiliary Society, for colonizing in Africa, the Free People of Colour of the United States, most respectfully represents:

That twelve years have now elapsed, since a few individuals of the City of Washington, prompted by feelings of patriotism and philanthropy, formed themselves into a Society, under the

denomination of "The American Society, for Colonizing in Africa, the Free People of Colour of the United States."

It would naturally be supposed, that a Society organized for the promotion of an object so laudable and benevolent, could not fail of receiving at once, the cordial approbation, and liberal patronage of all, who had taken but a cursory view of the civil and political condition of the free people of colour, and the pernicious and dangerous influence which they exert over the slave population. Such, however, was unfortunately not the case. No sooner had the Society commenced its operations, than it saw itself surrounded on all sides, with difficulties the most embarrassing. Its friends were held up to public view as fanatics and incendiaries; its scheme was proclaimed to be altogether visionary; and predictions of its total failure, were constantly and confidently uttered. Prejudices arising from different causes, but equally inveterate, were arrayed against it; and some even of its most ardent friends, rather hoped than believed, that it would ultimately prove successful. Conscious, however, that success could only be ensured, by "mighty, unremitted and protracted effort," the Managers of the Society, to whom all its interests were entrusted, entered upon the discharge of the arduous and responsible duties of their station, with that prudence and caution, but at the same time, with that firmness and decision, which the cause in which they had embarked, necessarily required. Believing that the scheme of the Society, was eminently calculated to accomplish the object, for which it had been adopted, and to advance the welfare of their country, they resolved in the spirit of true wisdom, never to abandon it, until its impracticability had been fairly tested by experiment. From this resolution, they were moved neither by the derision of the unthinking, the predictions of the presumptuous, nor the fears of the timid. They steadily pursued their object, undismayed by the numerous and formidable obstacles which were thrown in their way, confident that, however numerous and formidable, they must at last yield to their unwearied and unceasing exertions.

The result has shown that their hopes were not chimerical, that their labours have not been in vain. Under the auspices of the Society, supported almost exclusively by "private charity;" the Coast of Africa has been successfully explored; an Asylum

has been provided, to which the free people of colour may be safely removed; a Colony has been planted, and based, it is believed, on a foundation permanent and stable. Your memorialists hazard nothing in the assertion, that history has furnished no instance of a Colony, either in ancient or modern times, which has flourished to the same extent, within so short a period, as the one established by the Society on the Coast of Africa. To this Colony more than 1400 (including those liberated and the late expedition) free negroes have been with their own consent, already removed, and notwithstanding the numerous misrepresentations which have been floating through the country, with regard to its languishing condition, and the dangers and hardships and sufferings, to which emigrants are exposed on their arrival thither, there are numbers more, who are ready and anxious to depart, whenever the Society can afford them the means of transportation.

The establishment of this Colony, and the unparalleled prosperity which has thus far attended it, constitute in the opinion of your memorialists, an ample refutation of all the objections, which have at different times, and in different forms, been raised to the practicability of the scheme. They have silenced in a measure, the insinuations of lukewarm friends, and the cavils of open enemies. The Society is daily receiving a new accession of firm and able advocates. Auxiliaries for the purpose of increasing its funds, and advancing its object, are multiplying in almost every State of the Union, and in none more rapidly than in Virginia. A deep and heartfelt interest in its behalf, seems to have been awakened from one extremity of the land to the other. In its successful progress it has arrested the attention, not of individuals merely, but of the National and State Legislatures. Whithersoever indeed it has directed its course, if all opposition has not retired before it, it has at least to some good extent, gained the confidence and support of the candid, the liberal, and the reflecting.

Nor is this to be wondered at. The American Colonization Society cannot fail, when properly examined, of enlisting in its behalf, the best wishes and noblest exertions of the patriot, because its operations are directly calculated to elevate the character, and ensure the domestic peace and prosperity of the country. It may be safely assumed, that there is not an individual in the

community, who has given to the subject a moment's consideration, who does not regard the existence of the free people of colour in the bosom of the country, as an evil of immense magnitude, and of a dangerous and alarming tendency. Their abject and miserable condition is too obvious to be pointed out. All must perceive it, and perceiving it, cannot but lament it. But their deplorable condition is not more obvious to the most superficial observer, than is (what is far worse, and still more to be dreaded,) the powerful and resistless influence which they exert over the slave population. While their character remains what it now is, (and the laws and structure of the country in which they reside, prevent its permanent improvement,) this influence must of necessity be baneful and contaminating. Corrupt themselves, like the deadly Upas, they impart corruption to all around them. Their numbers too, are constantly and rapidly augmenting. Their annual increase is truly astonishing, certainly unexampled. The dangerous ascendancy which they have already acquired over the slaves, is consequently increasing with every addition to their numbers; and every addition to their numbers, is a subtraction from the wealth and strength, and character, and happiness, and safety of the country. And if this be true, as it unquestionably is, the converse is also true; the danger of their undue influence, will lessen with every diminution of their numbers; and every diminution of their numbers, must add, and add greatly, to the prosperity of the country. To remove them, therefore, is truly the dictate of patriotism.

Great, however, as are the benefits which the Colonization Society promises to bestow upon this country, by removing beyond its limits, a class of the population which all acknowledge to be idle, useless and dangerous, they are by no means greater than the benefits which it will bestow upon the individuals who compose that class. The Society has been termed a benevolent institution; but this appellation it would not deserve, if it did not leave the free negro in a far more enviable condition in Africa, than that in which it finds him in America. In the removal of the free negro, his happiness ought to be consulted; and the Society has consulted his happiness. It has provided him an Asylum in a fertile country, and in a salubrious climate. It takes

him from the land in which he is an alien and an outcast, and restores him to the country from which his fathers were originally torn, by the hand of violence. It wipes from his character, the obloquy which here rests upon it, and opens before his vision a bright prospect of usefulness, and happiness, and freedom. In a word, it translates him from "darkness into light." In confirmation of the truth of the above remarks, your memorialists confidently appeal to the past and present prosperous condition of the Colony itself. They appeal to the industry and enterprising spirit of the Colonists; to their numerous works of public utility; to their flourishing schools; to their expanding commerce; to their increasing wealth; to their mild and wholesome government. They appeal too, to the fact, that the Colonists are constantly and earnestly imploring their brethren on this side the Ocean, to come over to their infant settlement, that they may share in their prosperity and happiness. These facts speak for themselves: they clearly evince, that the removal of the free people of colour is as beneficial to them, as to the country which they leave behind.

But, this is not all. Your memorialists might go on to exhibit the tendency of the Society to deliver Africa from the thralldom of barbarism, under which that unfortunate portion of the globe has for so many centuries been groaning. The whole history of the misfortunes of that country, may be comprised in one word, the SLAVE TRADE. It is this, that has paralyzed her physical and moral energies, and it is this, which has brought upon this country a deadly and a lasting curse. But, the Colony planted by the Society has already done much, and will yet do more, towards the suppression of that inhuman and nefarious traffic, not so much by the force of arms, as by the moral influence which it has exerted, and will continue to exert, over the surrounding native tribes. It has kindled in Africa the light of civilization and christianity, which sooner or later, must shine over every portion of that ill-fated and unhappy continent. In whatever aspect, therefore, the cause of colonization be considered, it does, in the opinion of your memorialists, address its claims alike to the Patriot, the Philanthropist, and the Christian; for, it is emphatically the cause of Liberty, of Humanity, of Religion. In this age of expansive and expanding benevolence,

when the streams of charity are flowing in ten thousand channels through the country, the wisdom of man has devised no scheme so comprehensive in its benevolence, so overflowing in its blessings, as the scheme of the Colonization Society. It has been justly and eloquently termed "a circle of philanthropy, every segment of which tells and testifies to the beneficence of the whole."

At the same time, however, that your memorialists are impelled by the interest which they feel in the cause of the Society, to speak of it in terms of high commendation, and to represent it as rapidly growing, as it certainly is, in the confidence of the American public, they are by no means unaware, that it has still to contend with opposition the most violent, and that too, from men of distinguished abilities. It is insisted in the first place, that the scheme of the Society, however plausible it may appear in the eyes of a few misguided philanthropists, is manifestly impracticable; and in the second place, that the execution of this scheme, even if it be practicable, is fraught with danger to the body politic. The reasons which have been urged to sustain the first of these objections, such as the difficulty of obtaining emigrants, the insalubrity of the climate of Africa, the hostile character of the native tribes, and so on, having been applied repeatedly to the best of all tests, the test of experience, have been demonstrated to be totally and altogether erroneous. The second objection may be resolved into this; that the Society, under the specious pretext of removing a vicious and noxious population, is secretly undermining the rights of private property.

This is the objection expressed in its full force, and if your memorialists could for a moment believe it to be true in point of fact, they would never, slave-holders as they are, have associated themselves together for the purpose of co-operating with the Parent Society; and far less would they have appeared in the character in which they now do, before the Legislative Bodies of a slave-holding State. And, if any instance could be now adduced, in which the Society has ever manifested even an intention to depart from the avowed object, for the promotion of which it was originally instituted, none would with more willingness and readiness. withdraw from it their countenance and

support. But, from the time of its formation, down to the present period, all its operations have been directed exclusively to the promotion of its one grand object, namely, the colonization in Africa, of the **FREE PEOPLE OF COLOUR** of the United States. It has always protested, and through your memorialists it again protests, that it has no wish to interfere with the delicate but important subject of slavery. It has never, in a solitary instance, addressed itself to the slave. It has never sought to invade the tranquillity of the domestic circle, nor the peace and safety of society. It would view the interference of Congress on this subject, as unconstitutional; as a flagrant and unjustifiable usurpation of the rights of the slave-holding States. There is no occasion, therefore, why the people of Virginia should manifest a hostile disposition towards the Society, since it has so often and so solemnly disclaimed all intention of intermeddling, either directly or indirectly, with the private property of individuals, and since no instance in which it has deviated from its primary and original design, has ever yet occurred.

In connexion with this subject, your memorialists beg leave to mention, that by an act of the Virginia Legislature, passed in 1805, emancipated slaves forfeit their freedom by remaining for a longer period than twelve months, within the limits of the Commonwealth. This law, odious and unjust as it may at first view appear, and hard as it may seem to bear upon the liberated negro, was doubtless dictated by sound policy, and its repeal would be regarded by none with more unfeigned regret, than by the friend of African Colonization. It has restrained many masters from giving freedom to their slaves, and has thereby contributed to check the growth of an evil already too great and formidable. Some, it is true, overlooking all considerations of policy and of prudence, and yielding only to the strong impulse of their own feelings, regardless of the consequences, do not hesitate to turn their slaves loose upon society, who, in a short time become, as they almost universally do, a burden to themselves, and a nuisance to all around them. But, in denying these people a residence in Virginia, the General Assembly provided no asylum for them elsewhere, and hence it has come to pass, that petitions after petitions for permission to reside within the State, are annually presented to the Legislature. The

rejection of such petitions, (except in some extraordinary cases,) has led, as might reasonably have been anticipated, to the open and notorious evasion of the law above referred to, many instances of which, might be enumerated by your memorialists. Now, the Colonization Society comes seasonably in aid of this abuse, by opening on the Coast of Africa, a safe and hospitable asylum, to which may be removed, not only such persons of colour as are born free, but such as may be made free by the act of their owners. The consequence will be, that the man who may desire, from whatever motive, to give freedom to his slaves, instead of casting them, as was formerly the case, unfriended and penniless upon the community, to augment the already too formidable numbers of the free people of colour, will now take them to the Colony which has been planted by the Society, with the fullest confidence, that their condition, in every respect, will be greatly ameliorated, and with the certain assurance, that the country from which they go, will be benefitted by their absence. Already has a large number of the slaves who have been emancipated in Virginia, since the establishment of this Colony, been taken to it, either at the cost of their former owners, or, as it has frequently happened, at the cost of the Society. And when the advantages of Colonization in Africa shall be more fully developed, the Act of 1805 will cease to be evaded; the tables of the Legislature cease to be burdened with petitions from free people of colour, and manumission cease to be what it now is, an injury to the slave, and a curse to the country. Your memorialists have noticed this topic, not merely because they believe it calculated to recommend the Society, but because from a misconception of it, has arisen the objection before adverted to, namely, that under a plausible pretext, the Society was covertly seeking to impair the rights of private property.

Believing, therefore, that the American Colonization Society is a patriotic and benevolent institution; that all its plans are within the compass of reasonable human exertions; that its invaluable blessings are not confined to the white population of this country, but extend themselves to the free people of colour, and to Africa herself; your memorialists have ventured again to bring it to the notice of the Legislature. In the discharge of this pleasing duty, they are animated by the reflection, that the

plan of colonizing the free people of colour, in some place beyond the limits of the United States, originated in the Legislature of Virginia, more than twenty years ago, when several important resolutions were passed upon this subject. Though the efforts, then made for this purpose, proved abortive, and the subject seemed for some time to be forgotten, yet after the lapse of twelve years, it again forced itself by its intrinsic importance, upon the attention of the Legislature, and gave rise to the resolution of 1816; a resolution, which passed the House of Delegates with only seven dissenting voices, and the Senate with only one. To this resolution, passed with great unanimity, by both branches of the General Assembly, may be traced the origin of the American Colonization Society. To the Legislature, then, the friends of the Society, in Virginia, encouraged by the past, appeal with confidence, for aid to enable them successfully to prosecute its scheme, and to rear to full maturity, the Colony which has been planted under its auspices. Never, at any time since its formation, has the Society more needed assistance than at present, though it may be truly said, that never at any time have its friends been more numerous, or more active. Upwards of five hundred free people of colour, one-fifth at least of whom are residents of Virginia, have, during the past year, made application to the Society to take them to Liberia, and are now not only ready, but full of eagerness to depart.

Your memorialists do not presume to point out the mode in which legislative aid should be afforded, and far less the quantum of that aid. What they ask more particularly, is, that the whole subject of African Colonization be brought fully before the Legislature; that it be deliberately and minutely examined in all its bearings, and decided on according to its merits. "Acting above disguise, they seek investigation." The cause in which they have embarked, is one of no ordinary magnitude, Talents, and influence, and wealth, are enlisted in its behalf. Numerous and powerful Auxiliaries are urging it forward. Its course is onward. Its consequences to society must, therefore, be injurious or beneficial. In either case, it demands investigation, that, if injurious, the wisdom of the Legislature may devise some means to arrest its progress, and if beneficial, that the resources of the State may be applied to accelerate its march,

and to bring upon the country, the blessings which it promises to bestow. And, as in duty bound, your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Signed in behalf of the Society,
JAMES CLARKE, *President*.

JOHN B. TINSLEY, *Secretary*.

Report of the Committee, to whom were referred sundry memorials on the subject of Colonizing the Free People of Colour of Virginia.

The Committee, to whom were referred sundry memorials on the subject of colonizing, on the coast of Africa, the free people of colour of Virginia, having given to the subject, the attention justly due to its importance, and to its intimate connexion with what they believe to be the best interests of the State, beg leave to report, that the object of all the memorialists seems to be, to induce the General Assembly of Virginia, to avail itself of the offer of the American Colonization Society, to receive and protect within its settlement, on the Coast of Africa, any portion of the free coloured population of America. To this course, the memorialists think the Legislature of Virginia not only pledged by its previous acts, but invited also by the most powerful considerations of State policy and national justice; and they appeal with confidence to the wisdom and patriotism of those to whom the interests of the State are now confided, to commence at once the important work of providing the necessary means for the gradual removal of such portions of the coloured population of the State, as are already free, or may hereafter be liberated.

Your committee are aware of the delicate nature of the subject, to which their attention has been thus directed; and while they deem it their imperious duty to investigate in the fullest manner its merits and its consequences, they hope to be able to present the result of their investigation, in a mode calculated neither to alarm the fears, nor to excite the prejudices of any impartial mind.

The establishment within the limits of any State, of a large

and growing community of individuals, essentially different from the great mass of its inhabitants, would, under any circumstances, be a matter of questionable expediency. But, if that community be distinguished by the peculiarity of its colour; be made up of slaves, or of their immediate descendants, and be diffused over every part of a slave-holding country, there is no longer room to doubt the baneful and dangerous character of the influence it must exert. The distinctive complexion by which it is marked, necessarily debars it from all familiar intercourse with the more favoured society that surrounds it, and of course denies to it all hope of either social or political elevation, by means of individual merit, however great, or individual exertions, however unremitted. The strongest incentives to industry, and moral as well as political rectitude, being thus withdrawn, it would argue a most extraordinary ignorance of the character of the human heart, to anticipate from those, in relation to whom virtue and intelligence, and patriotism, are stripped of their most powerful attractions, a course of conduct calculated either to exalt themselves, or to benefit the country in which they live. Reason, on the contrary, would point us to the very results which our own experience has so fully demonstrated. Ignorance, idleness, and profligacy, must be the inseparable companions, the unavoidable consequences of individual degradation; and they who are its unfortunate subjects, cannot fail to be a curse to the community with which they are connected, detracting at once from its general wealth, its moral character, and its political strength.

But, there is yet a more important and alarming view, in which this subject necessarily presents itself to the mind of every Virginian. A community of the character that has been described, with this additional peculiarity, that it differs from the class from which it has sprung, only in its exemption from the wholesome restraints of domestic authority, is found in the midst of a numerous and rapidly increasing slave population; and while its partial freedom, trammelled as it is, by the necessary rigours of the law, is nevertheless sufficiently attractive, to be a source of uneasiness and dissatisfaction to those who have not attained to its questionable privileges, its exemption from the prompt and efficient inquisition appertaining to slavery, makes it an important

instrument in the corruption and seduction of those, who yet remain the property of their masters. The extent of this evil, may be fairly estimated, by a reference to our Statute book. The laws intended either to prevent or to limit its effects, are of a character, which nothing, but the extreme necessity of the case, could ever justify, to a community of republicans; and the obligation to resort to them, is sufficient to command the serious attention of every enlightened patriot.

To considerations such as these, may be traced the policy, first resorted to by the Legislature of Virginia in 1805, of arresting the progress of emancipation, by requiring the speedy removal from the State, of all, to whom its privileges might be extended; and rigorous as this policy may seem to be; at war with the feelings of a very large and respectable portion of the community; and repressing by its mandates, some of the noblest principles of the human heart, it was nevertheless justified by the most powerful considerations of public necessity; it had become essential, towards preventing the rapid extension of an evil, that threatened in its progress, to destroy the peace and tranquillity of the State.

But, this unfortunately, was the utmost limit of its operation. The evil was already in existence, and possessed within itself, the means of its own extension, and accordingly, the free coloured population of Virginia, which in 1800, was only 24,000, had in 1820, reached the amount of 36,875. The only expedient left, was to prevent its farther increase, and if possible to ensure its decrease, by providing for its gradual removal; and accordingly the General Assembly, in its Session of 1816-'17, evidently with the intention of resorting to this expedient, renewed an effort it had made without success as early as 1800, to procure through the General Government, an asylum on the coast of Africa, for the reception of its coloured population. This object, for reasons which it is unnecessary to enumerate, was never accomplished.

But, a Society of intelligent and patriotic individuals, with scarcely any other resources than such as were supplied by private charity, and their own enterprising spirits, have, in the mean time, succeeded in exploring the most important parts of the Western Coast of Africa, in procuring a settlement of al-

most indefinite extent, and in planting within its limits, a thriving Colony of more than twelve hundred people, taken indiscriminately from the different States of the Union. The doors of this settlement are now opened to the coloured population of Virginia, and it rests with the Legislature to determine, whether a wise policy, and the best interests of the State, do not require that suitable stimulants to emigration, should be offered to those, for whose especial benefit, this valuable asylum has been prepared.

It is deemed unnecessary to repeat what has already been said, of the character of the population in question, of its hopeless degradation, and its baneful influence, in the situation in which it is now placed.

The advantages that would result from its removal, not only to itself, but to the country it would leave, and to the country of its adoption, may very safely be assumed as a matter no longer admitting of a doubt. But, there is one consideration connected with the subject, so interesting, and sustained by so many of the most imposing sanctions, ever drawn to the support of legislative enactments, that your committee would feel itself guilty of the grossest neglect, were its present labours terminated, without claiming for it the attention it so justly merits.

Under the influence of a policy, already referred to, and justified by the necessity from which it sprung, the laws of Virginia have prohibited emancipation within the limits of the State, but on condition of the early removal of the individual emancipated. Do not justice and humanity require, that the rigours of this condition should be softened, as far as possible, by legislative interposition? And how can this be so effectually accomplished, as by providing a safe and suitable asylum, together with the means of emigration to it, for those whose removal from the State is positively enjoined? There can be no doubt of the wisdom and propriety of controlling, and even entirely repressing the operations of benevolence and philanthropy, when inconsistent with the public safety, or the public welfare. But, that Government would be justly chargeable with the extreme of despotism, that should attempt, without necessity, to interfere with the kind and generous feelings of the human heart; or, where the necessity exists, without tempering the rigour of its decrees with such

emollients as charity may suggest, and the means at its disposal may supply.

On the present occasion, however, policy fortunately points to the very course which humanity would require. In providing for those whose removal from the State, is made a condition of their emancipation, the means of emigration to Africa, the General Assembly will be applying, in the opinion of your Committee, the only safe and efficient remedy to an evil, whose presence and magnitude is acknowledged, and whose future increase is dreaded by all. If the effect of this operation should not be, as some have sanguinely hoped, the entire extinction of slavery, in the end, there can be very little doubt, that it will at least open a drain for our coloured population, of which individual humanity and legislative wisdom may avail themselves, to an extent amply sufficient for all the purposes of public security. But should it realise in its results, the anticipations that have sometimes been formed in relation to it, and draw from us, without a single interference with individual rights, or a single violation of individual wishes, the great mass of our coloured population, then indeed may Virginia look to it, as the surest means of restoring her to that ascendancy among her sister States, of which it may be safely affirmed, that slavery only has deprived her.

Entertaining these sentiments, your committee cannot hesitate to recommend, in compliance with the suggestions of the memorials referred to them, the provision of a permanent fund for defraying, with proper limitations, the expenses of such free coloured people, as may choose to emigrate from the State of Virginia, to the settlement at Liberia. They are the more earnest in this recommendation, from having learned that there are at this moment, nearly six hundred applicants for emigration, a large proportion of whom are natives of Virginia. On two former occasions, the Legislature did not hesitate to contribute from the public funds, towards the encouragement of this patriotic undertaking, and it is not among the least pleasing of the recollections connected with the event, that while they were thus directly promoting so important an object, the effect of their example was to excite in some of their sister States, a spirit which has resulted, in one of them at least, in an annual appropriation for relieving itself from its free coloured population.

Your Committee are aware, that this whole business is, as yet, in some degree, a matter of experiment; and they would of course deem it inexpedient for the State of Virginia, at once, to engage in it to the full extent, that may ultimately be required of her. But enough has been demonstrated to justify a beginning by a small annual appropriation, at all times subject to the control of the Legislature; and this appropriation may hereafter be either withdrawn or increased, as its results shall be found injurious or beneficial.

In looking around for some special fund that may most properly be set apart for this object, the attention of your Committee has been particularly drawn to that portion of the public revenue derived from the annual sales of coloured convicts. Though small in amount, it is nevertheless sufficiently large for the experiment proposed; and its peculiar origin, springing as it does, from the crimes and the misfortunes of our coloured population, would seem to recommend it as particularly appropriate for improving the condition of that population, and for gradually relieving the State from the present evils, and the future dangers, inseparable from its existence and probable increase within her limits. Your Committee accordingly recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide for the removal of the free coloured people of Virginia to the Coast of Africa.

2. *Resolved*, That the Committee of Finance be directed to prepare a bill appropriating to this purpose, so much of the annual revenue as arises from the sales of convicts.

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We have long desired to see State Colonization Societies, auxiliary to the Parent Institution, established throughout the Union, and organized on such a plan, as to secure the greatest possible results. We have regarded the object of our Society as truly NATIONAL, and demanding for its full accomplishment, the energies and resources of the nation. Eleven State Societies have been already established. The following plan for a GENERAL ORGANIZED SYSTEM, was recently submitted to the Board of Managers, by the Rev. Isaac Orr, General Agent of the Society, and after due

consideration, was unanimously adopted; and is now earnestly recommended to the attention of all the friends of our cause. Why may not this system be put into actual and vigorous operation in the course of the present year? Is there any thing which more imperiously claims the thoughts and efforts of every humane, patriotic, or religious mind?

Plan for the establishment of State Colonization Societies, with Subordinate Associations throughout the Union.

1. That the State Societies be direct Auxiliaries to the General Society, and that it be recommended that each State Society should, by its constitution, determine to see that a Society, auxiliary to itself shall be formed, and kept in efficient activity, in each county in the state, from each of which a delegate shall be a manager of the State Society. The reasons for this latter provision, are, that the members of the State Society, being on the ground, and coming indeed from all parts of the State, can best discern, and seize upon the various facilities, which will enable them to form County Societies most readily; that they can, on the same account, do much without incurring the expense of employing an agent; and that if an agent must be employed, they have the best means of selecting one that is suitable, who being on the ground can perform the duties of his office without incurring the travelling expenses necessary to be incurred by an agent of the General Society.

2. That it be recommended to each County Society, to see that Societies auxiliary to itself be formed and kept active in every town or district in the County, from each of which a delegate shall be a manager of the County Society. The reasons for this are the same as in the preceding article.

3. That the annual meetings of the Town and District Societies, be in regular order, with regard to places, and in immediate succession; that as far as practicable, the same order and succession be observed with regard to the meetings of the various State Societies, to the end, that an agent of the General Society may attend them all in succession, as far as practicable; and that the meetings of the State Societies immediately precede the annual meeting of the General Society.

4. That the monies of the Town and District Societies, be generally collected directly before their annual meetings; that

they be transferred to the County Societies, by their Delegates to the meeting of that Society; that the monies of the County Societies, be collected and transferred in the same manner, to the State Society; and that the monies of the various State Societies, be collected and transferred in the same manner, as far as practicable, to the General Society.

The object of this article, is to save expense and embarrassment, in the collection of monies for the General Society.

5. That the various Societies make it the object of their most strenuous efforts, to collect funds sufficient to convey immediately to the Colony of Liberia, every coloured person of suitable age, and suitable qualifications, that is willing to go; that, with the attainment of this object, they will be satisfied; and that they combine and increase their efforts, until this object is fully accomplished.

6. That inasmuch as it must be deemed a leading object of this Society, to diffuse information, and exert an influence, by means of the press, it be earnestly recommended to the various Societies, to circulate as much as possible, the different publications of the Society, to obtain subscriptions for the Repository; to collect and transmit the payments for that work, with the contributions to the funds of the Society; and for compensation and encouragement in this undertaking, which may be performed almost without trouble by the collectors of the Town and District Societies, they are authorized by the Agent and Publisher (Mr. James C. Dunn, Georgetown, D. C.) of the Repository, to retain twelve and a half per cent. on all payments for that work collected.

The reasons, in brief, in favour of the whole system now recommended, are, that it contains in itself, the principles of its own life, and its own activity; that on this account, it avoids the expense and trouble of an extraneous influence; that it will be relieved of the various irregularities and embarrassments unavoidable by any other system less general in its character; and that as a ground of safe dependence for the Society, it will procure an income of much greater amount, and greater uniformity.

Resolutions of State Legislatures.

The following States have expressed in terms more or less favourable, their approbation of the plans of the American Colonization Society. Virginia, Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee, New Jersey, Ohio, Connecticut, Kentucky, Delaware, Vermont, Indiana. Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, New Jersey, Ohio, Delaware, Connecticut, Vermont, Kentucky and Indiana, have recommended the objects of the American Colonization Society to the patronage of the National Government, (Vide Appendix to the Tenth Annual Report of the Society, page 60, and Report 11th, page 80.)

During the last year, the following joint Resolutions passed the Senate of KENTUCKY, with only three dissenting voices:

Resolved, &c. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress, be requested to use their best endeavours to procure an appropriation of money of Congress, to aid, so far as is consistent with the Constitution of the United States, in Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States in Africa, under the direction of the President of the United States.

2. That the Governor of this State be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolution, to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governors of the several States.

Mr. Noble, of Indiana, presented to the Senate of the United States, a joint Resolution of the Legislature of the State of Indiana, recommending the American Colonization Society to the patronage of Congress.

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Departure of the Ship Harriet.

The Ship Harriet, Capt. Johnson, left Hampton Roads on the 9th instant, with 160 emigrants, for the Colony of Liberia. We are happy to say, that a more select and respectable company has not at any time embarked for the African Colony. Of this number, 18 were from Norfolk, 67 from Richmond, and 19 from Petersburg, Virginia.

Between 40 and 50 of this number, were slaves liberated by less than half a dozen individuals, for the special purpose of being transferred to the privileges of the Liberian Colony. Fifteen of these, very promising subjects for colonization, were emancipated by Miss Margaret Mercer, near Annapolis, Maryland, and 18 by the Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, of Brunswick County, Virginia. Six were lately the property of Edward Colston, Esq. of Virginia. Several others had just received freedom from their benevolent proprietors. Many of those who had long been free, had acquired considerable property, and all who embarked, took with them a very liberal supply of provisions, household furniture, tools, and agricultural implements, and articles for trade. Most of these emigrants were in the vigour of life, highly recommended for their correct morals, and industrious habits; and a large proportion distinguished among their class for intelligence, influence, and piety. Abduhl Rahhahman, the unfortunate Moorish Prince, with his wife, took passage in the Harriet. Some days before the sailing of this vessel, the Secretary of the Society visited Norfolk, and at a meeting, attended by all those attached to the expedition, had an opportunity of impressing upon their minds, the great and solemn duties to which they were about to be called. He was followed by the Rev. James W. Douglass, who, in a very interesting discourse, suggested by the sacred text, "For they that say such things, declare plainly that they seek a country," directed the thoughts of all to the "better country" of the Christian's hope, to that City which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

After some very appropriate and affecting remarks, by two of the intended colonists, the Rev. David Payne, and the Rev. Joseph Turner, the former a preacher in the Methodist, the latter in the Presbyterian Church, the service was concluded with prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Nimmo, of Portsmouth.

Before the departure of the Harriet, the Rev. Joseph Turner was ordained to the work of the ministry, by a Presbytery of the Church, of which he had long been an exemplary member, and a useful preacher.

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Plan proposed by Gerrit Smith, Esq. to raise \$100,000 for the Society, by subscriptions of \$100 a year, for ten years.

The following are the subscriptions already received on the plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq.

GERRIT SMITH, Peterboro, New York.

JASPER CORNING, Charleston, South Carolina.

THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, Newark, New Jersey

JOHN T. NORTON, Albany, New York.

E. F. BACKUS, New Haven, Connecticut.

A Gentleman in Mississippi.

MATTHEW CAREY, Philadelphia.

JOSIAH BISSEL, Rochester, New York.

WILLIAM CRANE, Richmond, Virginia.

FLEMING JAMES, ditto.

ROBERT RALSTON, Philadelphia.

ELLIOT CRESSON. ditto.

Mrs. M. H. CARRINGTON,

Mrs. ANN FONTAINE,

P. S. CARRINGTON,

WM. A. CARRINGTON,

} \$100 annually by equal contri-
butions.

Gen. EDWARD CARRINGTON,

A few Gentlemen near Oak Hill, Fauquier County, Va.

Rev. EBENEZER BURGESS, Dedham, Mass.

D. J. BURR, Richmond, Va.

ARTHUR TAPPAN, New York.

LIST OF SOCIETIES

Auxiliary to the American Colonization Society.

WE have condensed our list of officers to the several Societies, omitting the Managers in all except the State Societies; to which we trust none will object, who consider the increased economy of this new arrangement.

AUXILIARY COLONIZATION SOCIETY OF MARYLAND.

Hon. Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

Gen. Samuel Smith,
Roger B. Taney,
Luke Tiernan,
Dr. James Stuart,
Robert Oliver,
Isaac McKim,
Col. Maynadier,
Robert H. Goldsborough,
Charles Goldsborough,
James H. McCulloh,
Philip E. Thomas,
Robert Gilmore,
Hezekiah Niles,
John Grahame,
Richard T. Earle,

William Barroll,
Joseph Kent,
Joseph E. Muse,
Thomas James Bullitt,
Daniel Martin,
Anthony Banning,
Wm. H. Tilghman,
J. T. Chase,
A. C. Magruder,
John Brewer,
James Murray,
John Leeds Keer,
Daniel Murray,
J. J. Speed,
Samuel Sterett.

Board of Managers.

Rev. Dr Henshaw,
— Mr. Nevins,
— Mr. Breckenridge,
— Dr. Wyatt,
— Dr. Kurtz,
— Mr. Hanson,
— Mr. Finlay,
Peter Hoffman,
Col. Benjamin C. Howard,
Gen. Geo. H. Stuart,
Col William Stuart,
Robert Armstrong,
Col. John Berry,
Thomas Kelso,
Jacob I. Cohen,
Dr. P. Macauley,
Solomon Etting,
D. E. G. Edrington,
Wm. Bose,
Thomas Armstrong,

Wm. Wilkins,
Hugh McElderry,
Wm. Gwynn,
Richard H. Douglas,
Thomas Ellicott,
Dr. Richard Steuart,
Nathaniel Williams,
Richard Gill,
Edward Kemp,
Richard B. Magruder,
Upton S. Heath,
Charles S. Walsh,
Francis H. Davidge,
Joseph Cushing,
Fielder Israel,
Tilghman Brice,
Edmund Didier,
Dr. Eli Ayres,
Wm. R. Adair.

John Hoffman, *Treasurer.*
Edward J. Coale, *Secretary.*

James Bryan, *Asst. Sec.*

Agency.

Hon. Judge Brice, *Chairman.*
 John H. B. Latrobe,
 John I. Lloyd,

Charles Howard,
 Charles C. Harper, *Sec.*

CONNECTICUT COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

His Excellency Gideon Tomlinson, Governor, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

Hon. John Thompson Peters, a Judge of Supreme Court.
 Benjamin Silliman, Professor of Chemistry in Yale College.
 Rev. Leonard Bacon, New Haven, *Secretary.*
 Seth Terry, Esq. Hartford, *Treasurer.*

Managers.

His Honor John S. Peters, Lieutenant Governor, Hebron,
 Hon. Ebenezer Young, Speaker House Representatives, Killingly,
 Rev. Joel H. Linsley, Hartford,
 Rev. Samuel Merwin, New Haven,
 Right Rev. T. C. Brownell, President Washington College,
 Rev. T. H. Gallaudet, Principal American Asylum, Hartford,
 Seth P. Beers, Esq. Com. S. Fund, Litchfield,
 Hon. John Alsop, Senator, Middletown,
 Hon. R. I. Ingersoll, Member Congress, New Haven.

AUXILIARY SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF VERMONT.

Hon. Elijah Paine, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

Hon. C. P. Van Ness, | His Ex. Ezra Butler.

Managers.

Rev. Almon Dunbar,		Hon. Amariah Chandler,
Hon. Seth Wetmore,		Samuel Clark,
Hon. Martin Chittenden,		Hon. Phineas White,
Hon. Israel P. Dana,		Rev. Calvin Yale,
Rev. James Hobart,		Hon. Thomas Emerson,
Hon. D. Azro A. Buck,		Hon. Abner Forbes.
Hon. Jeduthun Loomis, <i>Treas.</i>		Rev. Chester Wright, <i>Secretary.</i>
Hon. Joseph Howes, <i>Auditor.</i>		

COLONIZATION SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Robert Field Stockton, of the United States' Navy, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

James S. Green,		Gen. John Frelinghuysen,
L. Q. C. Elmer,		James Stryker,
Dr. John T. Woodhull,		Professor John Maclean.

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N. B. The above List is probably incomplete, as Societies frequently neglect, for a long time, to transmit Lists of their Officers.



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